

By the Committee on Education Pre-K - 12; and Senator Yarborough

581-02511-26

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to educational facilities; requiring the Office of Educational Facilities and the Office of Safe Schools to collaborate with specified entities to review the State Requirements for Educational Facilities; providing requirements for the review; requiring that recommendations be provided to specified entities; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. (1) The Office of Educational Facilities and the Office of Safe Schools within the Department of Education shall collaborate with at least one state university that has research experience in the design and construction of educational facilities; district facilities directors; representatives of the Florida Building Commission; and sheriffs or police chiefs to review the State Requirements for Educational Facilities required under s. 1013.37, Florida Statutes, and make recommendations, as appropriate, to improve teacher and student safety and accountability through a school's physical plant. The review must include all of the following:

(a) Recommended changes in new construction and renovations which may reduce the occurrence of misconduct between teachers and students and between students. Such misconduct may include, but is not limited to, physical and sexual abuse, inappropriate relationships with students, bullying, and harassment.

(b) Configurations of a physical plant, such as using lighting, windows, doors, mirrors, and cameras, to ensure that

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30 student interactions with adults are observable and that there
31 are opportunities for the interactions to be interrupted, to
32 reduce times that a student may be isolated, and to maintain
33 access control over spaces.

34 (2) The review required in this section must be conducted
35 in a manner that does not conflict with, diminish, or compromise
36 physical plant hardening requirements for school safety, which
37 must prioritize the creation of a secure, layered environment
38 designed to prevent, detect, delay, and respond to threats.

39 (3) Recommendations must be submitted to the department,
40 which shall transmit the recommendations and any comments as a
41 part of its next biennial review to the Florida Building
42 Commission consistent with s. 1013.37(4), Florida Statutes, with
43 copies to the Governor, the State Fire Marshal, the President of
44 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

45 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.