

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to school safety; amending s. 30.15, F.S.; requiring sheriffs to assist public postsecondary educational institutions in implementing guardian programs under certain provisions; authorizing a law enforcement agency to provide training; defining the term "law enforcement agency"; authorizing public postsecondary educational institutions to participate in the school guardian program; requiring public postsecondary educational institutions to provide a specified notice to the sheriff; amending s. 790.115, F.S.; creating the offense of discharging a weapon or firearm within 1,000 feet of a school; providing an exception; providing that a person arrested for certain offenses must be held in custody until brought before the court for admittance to bail; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; ranking an offense created by the act on the offense severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment Code; amending s. 943.082, F.S.; requiring that postsecondary institutions be made aware of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool in a specified manner; requiring public postsecondary educational institutions to promote the use of such tool; amending s. 1001.2921, F.S.; authorizing funds for Catholic

schools for specified security purposes; prioritizing the use of such funds; amending s. 1003.25, F.S.; requiring specified educational records for certain students to be transferred to a Florida College System institution or state university under certain circumstances; requiring the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors to adopt rules and regulations, respectively; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; requiring certain trainings to include specified information relating to school safety; reenacting and amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; removing the requirement that only sheriffs may provide required school guardian training; creating s. 1006.601, F.S.; defining the term "public postsecondary educational institution"; authorizing such institutions to participate in certain programs; authorizing such institutions to appoint certified school guardians; authorizing specified persons to serve as school guardians; requiring such institutions to adopt specified emergency response plans; requiring such institutions to provide specified training, post specified information, and adopt threat management processes; requiring such institutions to develop policies for specified student, faculty, and staff supports; authorizing the State Board of Education and

51       the Board of Governors to adopt rules and regulations,  
52       respectively; reenacting ss. 402.305(19)(a), 843.08,  
53       943.03(16), and 1001.212(1), (4), F.S., relating to  
54       licensing standards, child care facilities, false  
55       personation, Department of Law Enforcement, and Office  
56       of Safe Schools, respectively; providing effective  
57       dates.

58

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

60

61       **Section 1. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section  
62       30.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

63       30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.—

64       (1) Sheriffs, in their respective counties, in person or  
65       by deputy, shall:

66       (k) Assist district school boards and charter school  
67       governing boards in complying with, or private schools or child  
68       care facilities, as defined in s. 402.302, in exercising options  
69       in, s. 1006.12. A sheriff must also assist public postsecondary  
70       educational institutions, as described in s. 1000.04(3), in  
71       implementing a guardian program under s. 1006.601. A sheriff  
72       shall, at a minimum, provide access to a Chris Hixon, Coach  
73       Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to aid in  
74       the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on  
75       school premises, as required under this paragraph. Persons

76 certified as school guardians pursuant to this paragraph have no  
77 authority to act in any law enforcement capacity except to the  
78 extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant  
79 incident.

80 1.a. If a local school board has voted by a majority to  
81 implement a guardian program or has contracted for the use of  
82 school security guards to satisfy the requirements of s.  
83 1006.12, the sheriff in that county must establish a guardian  
84 program to provide training for school guardians or school  
85 security guards, pursuant to subparagraph 2., to school  
86 district, charter school, public postsecondary educational  
87 institution, private school, child care facility, or security  
88 agency employees, either directly or through a contract with  
89 another sheriff's office that has established a guardian  
90 program. The security agency employing a school security guard  
91 is responsible for all training and screening-related costs for  
92 a school security guard, but such charges may not exceed the  
93 actual cost incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

94 b. A public postsecondary educational institution or  
95 charter school governing board in a school district that has not  
96 voted, or has declined, to implement a guardian program may  
97 request the sheriff in the county to establish a guardian  
98 program for the purpose of training the public postsecondary  
99 educational institution or charter school employees or school  
100 security guards consistent with the requirements of subparagraph

101 2. If the county sheriff denies the request, the public  
102 postsecondary educational institution or charter school  
103 governing board may contract with a law enforcement agency  
104 sheriff that has established a guardian training program to  
105 provide such training. The charter school governing board must  
106 notify the superintendent and the sheriff in the charter  
107 school's county of the contract prior to its execution. The  
108 public postsecondary educational institution must notify the  
109 sheriff in the public postsecondary educational institution's  
110 county of the contract prior to its execution. The security  
111 agency employing a school security guard is responsible for all  
112 training and screening-related costs for a school security  
113 guard, but such charges may not exceed the actual cost incurred  
114 by the sheriff to provide the training.

115 c. A private school or child care facility in a school  
116 district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a  
117 guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of  
118 the private school or child care facility establish a guardian  
119 training program for the purpose of training private school  
120 employees, child care facility employees, or school security  
121 guards. If the county sheriff denies the request, the private  
122 school or child care facility may contract with a law  
123 enforcement agency that ~~sheriff from another county who~~ has  
124 established a guardian training program under subparagraph 2. to  
125 provide such training. The private school or child care facility

126 must notify the sheriff in the private school's or child care  
127 facility's county of the contract ~~with a sheriff from another~~  
128 ~~county~~ before its execution. The private school, child care  
129 facility, or security agency is responsible for all training and  
130 screening-related costs for a school guardian program. The law  
131 enforcement agency ~~sheriff~~ providing such training must ensure  
132 that any moneys paid by a private school, child care facility,  
133 or security agency are not commingled with any funds provided by  
134 the state to the law enforcement agency ~~sheriff~~ as reimbursement  
135 for screening-related and training-related costs ~~of any school~~  
136 ~~district or charter school employee~~.

137 d. The training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b.  
138 is a standardized statewide curriculum. Each law enforcement  
139 ~~agency, and each sheriff~~ providing such training shall adhere to  
140 the course of instruction specified in that sub-subparagraph.  
141 For purposes of this paragraph "law enforcement agency" means a  
142 sheriff and any municipal or state law enforcement agency  
143 approved by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. This  
144 subparagraph does not prohibit a law enforcement agency ~~sheriff~~  
145 from providing additional training. A school guardian or school  
146 security guard who has completed the training program required  
147 in sub-subparagraph 2.b. may not be required to attend another  
148 law enforcement agency's ~~sheriff's~~ training program pursuant to  
149 that sub-subparagraph unless there has been at least a 1-year  
150 break in his or her appointment as a guardian or employment by a

151 security agency as a school security guard in a school.

152 e. The law enforcement agency sheriff conducting the  
153 training pursuant to subparagraph 2. for school district, and  
154 charter school, or public postsecondary educational institution  
155 employees will be reimbursed for screening-related and training-  
156 related costs and for providing a one-time stipend of \$500 to  
157 each school guardian who participates in the school guardian  
158 program.

159 f. The law enforcement agency sheriff may waive the  
160 training and screening-related costs for a private school or  
161 child care facility for a school guardian training program.  
162 Funds provided pursuant to sub subparagraph e. may not be used  
163 to subsidize any costs that have been waived by the law  
164 enforcement agency sheriff. The law enforcement agency sheriff  
165 may not waive the training and screening-related costs required  
166 to be paid by a security agency for initial training or ongoing  
167 training of a school security guard.

168 g. A person who is certified and in good standing under  
169 the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission,  
170 who meets the qualifications established in s. 943.13, and who  
171 is otherwise qualified for the position of a school guardian or  
172 school security guard may be certified as a school guardian or  
173 school security guard by the law enforcement agency sheriff  
174 without completing the training requirements of sub subparagraph  
175 2.b. However, a person certified as a school guardian or school

176 security guard under this sub-subparagraph must meet the  
177 requirements of sub-subparagraphs 2.c.-e.

178 2. A law enforcement agency ~~sheriff~~ who establishes a  
179 program shall consult with the Department of Law Enforcement on  
180 programmatic guiding principles, practices, and resources, and  
181 shall certify as school guardians, without the power of arrest,  
182 school employees, as specified in s. 1006.12(3), or shall  
183 certify as school security guards those persons employed by a  
184 security agency who meet the criteria specified in s.  
185 1006.12(4), and who:

186 a. Hold a valid license issued under s. 790.06 or are  
187 otherwise eligible to possess or carry a concealed firearm under  
188 chapter 790.

189 b. After satisfying the requirements of s. 1006.12(7),  
190 complete a 144-hour training program, consisting of 12 hours of  
191 training to improve the school guardian's knowledge and skills  
192 necessary to respond to and de-escalate incidents on school  
193 premises and 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and  
194 proficiency training conducted by Criminal Justice Standards and  
195 Training Commission-certified instructors, which must include:

196 (I) Eighty hours of firearms instruction based on the  
197 Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission's Law  
198 Enforcement Academy training model, which must include at least  
199 10 percent but no more than 20 percent more rounds fired than  
200 associated with academy training. Program participants must

201 achieve an 85 percent pass rate on the firearms training.

202 (II) Sixteen hours of instruction in precision pistol.

203 (III) Eight hours of discretionary shooting instruction  
204 using state-of-the-art simulator exercises.

205 (IV) Sixteen hours of instruction in active shooter or  
206 assailant scenarios.

207 (V) Eight hours of instruction in defensive tactics.

208 (VI) Four hours of instruction in legal issues.

209 c. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a  
210 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the  
211 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the  
212 evaluation to the law enforcement agency sheriff's office. The  
213 Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to provide the law  
214 enforcement agency sheriff's office with mental health and  
215 substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

216 d. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent  
217 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.  
218 112.0455 and the law enforcement agency sheriff's office.

219 e. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon  
220 inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual  
221 basis.

222  
223 The law enforcement agency that ~~sheriff~~ who conducts the  
224 guardian training or waives the training requirements for a  
225 person under sub subparagraph 1.g. shall issue a school guardian

226 certificate to persons who meet the requirements of this section  
227 to the satisfaction of the law enforcement agency sheriff, and  
228 shall maintain documentation of weapon and equipment  
229 inspections, as well as the training, certification, inspection,  
230 and qualification records of each school guardian certified by  
231 the law enforcement agency sheriff. A person who is certified  
232 under this paragraph may serve as a school guardian under s.  
233 1006.12(3) only if he or she is appointed by the applicable  
234 school district superintendent, charter school principal, public  
235 postsecondary educational institution president, private school  
236 head of school, or child care facility owner. A law enforcement  
237 agency that sheriff who conducts the training for a school  
238 security guard or waives the training requirements for a person  
239 under sub subparagraph 1.g. and determines that the school  
240 security guard has met all the requirements of s. 1006.12(4)  
241 shall issue a school security guard certificate to persons who  
242 meet the requirements of this section to the satisfaction of the  
243 law enforcement agency sheriff and shall maintain documentation  
244 of weapon and equipment inspections, training, certification,  
245 and qualification records for each school security guard  
246 certified by the law enforcement agency sheriff.

247 3.a. Within 30 days after issuing a school guardian or  
248 school security guard certificate, the law enforcement agency  
249 that sheriff who issued the certificate must report to the  
250 Department of Law Enforcement the name, date of birth, and

251 certification date of the school guardian or school security  
252 guard.

253 b. By February 1 and September 1 of each school year, each  
254 school district, charter school, employing security agency,  
255 public postsecondary educational institution, private school,  
256 and child care facility must report in the manner prescribed to  
257 the Department of Law Enforcement the name, date of birth, and  
258 appointment date of each person appointed as a school guardian  
259 or employed as a school security guard. The school district,  
260 charter school, employing security agency, public postsecondary  
261 educational institution, private school, and child care facility  
262 must also report in the manner prescribed to the Department of  
263 Law Enforcement the date each school guardian or school security  
264 guard separates from his or her appointment as a school guardian  
265 or employment as a school security guard in a school.

266 c. The Department of Law Enforcement shall maintain a list  
267 of each person appointed as a school guardian or certified as a  
268 school security guard in the state. The list must include the  
269 name and certification date of each school guardian and school  
270 security guard and the date the person was appointed as a school  
271 guardian or certified as a school security guard, including the  
272 name of the school district, charter school, public  
273 postsecondary educational institution, private school, or child  
274 care facility in which the school guardian is appointed, or the  
275 employing security agency of a school security guard, any

276 information provided pursuant to s. 1006.12(5), and, if  
277 applicable, the date such person separated from his or her  
278 appointment as a school guardian or the last date a school  
279 security guard served in a school as of the last reporting date.  
280 The Department of Law Enforcement shall remove from the list any  
281 person whose training has expired pursuant to sub-subparagraph  
282 1.d.

283 d. Each law enforcement agency sheriff shall report on a  
284 quarterly basis to the Department of Law Enforcement the  
285 schedule for upcoming school guardian trainings, to include  
286 guardian trainings for school security guards, including the  
287 dates of the training, the training locations, a contact person  
288 to register for the training, and the class capacity. If no  
289 trainings are scheduled, the law enforcement agency sheriff is  
290 not required to report to the Department of Law Enforcement. The  
291 Department of Law Enforcement shall publish on its website a  
292 list of the upcoming school guardian trainings. The Department  
293 of Law Enforcement shall update such list quarterly.

294 e. A law enforcement agency that ~~sheriff who~~ fails to  
295 report the information required by this subparagraph may not  
296 receive reimbursement from the Department of Education for  
297 school guardian trainings. Upon the submission of the required  
298 information, a law enforcement agency sheriff is deemed eligible  
299 for such funding and is authorized to continue to receive  
300 reimbursement for school guardian training.

301       f. A school district, charter school, public postsecondary  
302 educational institution, private school, child care facility, or  
303 employing security agency that fails to report the information  
304 required by this subparagraph is prohibited from operating a  
305 school guardian program or employing school security guards in  
306 the following school year unless the missing information is  
307 provided.

308       g. By March 1 and October 1 of each school year, the  
309 Department of Law Enforcement shall notify the Department of  
310 Education of any law enforcement agency sheriff, school  
311 district, charter school, public postsecondary educational  
312 institution, private school, or child care facility that has not  
313 complied with the reporting requirements of this subparagraph.

314       h. The Department of Law Enforcement may adopt rules to  
315 implement the requirements of this subparagraph, including  
316 requiring additional reporting information only as necessary to  
317 uniquely identify each school guardian and school security guard  
318 reported.

319       **Section 2. Effective October 1, 2026, paragraph (d) of**  
320 **subsection (2) of section 790.115, Florida Statutes, is amended,**  
321 **and subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:**

322       790.115 Possessing or discharging weapons or firearms at a  
323 school-sponsored event or on school property prohibited;  
324 penalties; exceptions.—

325       (2)

326       (d) A person commits a felony of the second degree,  
327 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084,  
328 if he or she: who

329       1. Discharges any weapon or firearm while in violation of  
330 paragraph (a), unless discharged for lawful defense of himself  
331 or herself or another or for a lawful purpose; or,

332       2. Discharges any weapon or firearm within 1,000 feet of a  
333 school, during school hours or during the time of a sanctioned  
334 school activity, unless discharged for lawful defense of himself  
335 or herself or another or for a lawful purpose. This subparagraph  
336 does not apply to the discharge of a weapon or firearm on  
337 private real property within 1,000 feet of a school by the owner  
338 of such property or by a person whose presence on such property  
339 has been authorized, licensed, or invited by the owner ~~commits a~~  
340 ~~felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.~~  
341 ~~775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.~~

342       (4) A person arrested for a violation of paragraph (2) (d)  
343 must be held in custody until brought before the court for  
344 admittance to bail in accordance with chapter 903.

345       **Section 3. Effective October 1, 2026, paragraph (f) of**  
346 **subsection (3) of section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
347 **to read:**

348       921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity  
349 ranking chart.—

350       (3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

351	(f) LEVEL 6	
352	Florida	Felony
	Statute	Degree
353		Description
	316.027 (2) (b)	2nd Leaving the scene of a crash involving serious bodily injury.
354	316.193 (2) (b)	3rd Felony DUI, 4th or subsequent conviction.
355	316.1935 (4) (a)	2nd Aggravated fleeing or eluding.
356	327.30 (5) (a) 3.	2nd Vessel accidents involving serious bodily injury; leaving scene.
357	400.9935 (4) (c)	2nd Operating a clinic, or offering services requiring licensure, without a license.
358	499.0051 (2)	2nd Knowing forgery of transaction history, transaction information, or transaction

359			statement.
	499.0051 (3)	2nd	Knowing purchase or receipt of prescription drug from unauthorized person.
360	499.0051 (4)	2nd	Knowing sale or transfer of prescription drug to unauthorized person.
361	775.0875 (1)	3rd	Taking firearm from law enforcement officer.
362	784.021 (1) (a)	3rd	Aggravated assault; deadly weapon without intent to kill.
363	784.021 (1) (b)	3rd	Aggravated assault; intent to commit felony.
364	784.041	3rd	Felony battery; domestic battery by strangulation.
365	784.048 (3)	3rd	Aggravated stalking; credible threat.
366			

367	784.048 (5)	3rd	Aggravated stalking of person under 16.
368	784.07 (2) (c)	2nd	Aggravated assault on law enforcement officer.
369	784.074 (1) (b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on sexually violent predators facility staff.
370	784.08 (2) (b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on a person 65 years of age or older.
371	784.081 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on specified official or employee.
372	784.082 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
373	784.083 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on code inspector.
	787.02 (2)	3rd	False imprisonment; restraining with purpose other than those

374			in s. 787.01.
375	787.025 (2) (a)	3rd	Luring or enticing a child.
376	790.115 (2) (d)	2nd	Discharging firearm or weapon on school property <u>or within</u> <u>1,000 feet of a school.</u>
377	790.161 (2)	2nd	Make, possess, or throw destructive device with intent to do bodily harm or damage property.
378	790.164 (1)	2nd	False report concerning bomb, explosive, weapon of mass destruction, act of arson or violence to state property, or use of firearms in violent manner.
379	790.19	2nd	Shooting or throwing deadly missiles into dwellings, vessels, or vehicles.
	794.011 (8) (a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to

			participate in sexual activity by custodial adult.
380			
	794.05(1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with specified minor.
381			
	800.04(5) (d)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim 12 years of age or older but less than 16 years of age; offender less than 18 years.
382			
	800.04(6) (b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious conduct; offender 18 years of age or older.
383			
	806.031(2)	2nd	Arson resulting in great bodily harm to firefighter or any other person.
384			
	810.02(3) (c)	2nd	Burglary of occupied structure; unarmed; no assault or battery.
385			
	810.145(8) (b)	2nd	Digital voyeurism; certain minor victims; 2nd or subsequent offense.

386	812.014 (2) (b) 1.	2nd	Property stolen \$20,000 or more, but less than \$100,000, grand theft in 2nd degree.
387	812.014 (2) (c) 5.	3rd	Grand theft; third degree; firearm.
388	812.014 (6)	2nd	Theft; property stolen \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
389	812.015 (9) (a)	2nd	Retail theft; property stolen \$750 or more; second or subsequent conviction.
390	812.015 (9) (b)	2nd	Retail theft; aggregated property stolen within 120 days is \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
391	812.015 (9) (d)	2nd	Retail theft; multiple thefts within specified period.
392	812.015 (9) (e)	2nd	Retail theft; committed with

			specified number of other persons and use of social media platform.
393			
	812.13(2)(c)	2nd	Robbery, no firearm or other weapon (strong-arm robbery).
394			
	817.4821(5)	2nd	Possess cloning paraphernalia with intent to create cloned cellular telephones.
395			
	817.49(2)(b)2.	2nd	Willful making of a false report of a crime resulting in death.
396			
	817.505(4)(b)	2nd	Patient brokering; 10 or more patients.
397			
	817.5695(3)(b)	2nd	Exploitation of person 65 years of age or older, value \$10,000 or more, but less than \$50,000.
398			
	825.102(1)	3rd	Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult.
399			

	825.102 (3) (c)	3rd	Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.
400	825.1025 (3)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation of an elderly person or disabled adult.
401	825.103 (3) (c)	3rd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at less than \$10,000.
402	827.03 (2) (c)	3rd	Abuse of a child.
403	827.03 (2) (d)	3rd	Neglect of a child.
404	827.071 (5)	3rd	Possess, control, or intentionally view any photographic material, motion picture, etc., which includes child pornography.
405	828.126 (3)	3rd	Sexual activities involving animals.
406	836.05	2nd	Threats; extortion.

407	836.10	2nd	Written or electronic threats to kill, do bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism.
408	843.12	3rd	Aids or assists person to escape.
409	847.011	3rd	Distributing, offering to distribute, or possessing with intent to distribute obscene materials depicting minors.
410	847.012	3rd	Knowingly using a minor in the production of materials harmful to minors.
411	847.0135 (2)	3rd	Facilitates sexual conduct of or with a minor or the visual depiction of such conduct.
412	893.131	2nd	Distribution of controlled substances resulting in overdose or serious bodily

			injury.
413			
	914.23	2nd	Retaliation against a witness, victim, or informant, with bodily injury.
414			
	918.13(2) (b)	2nd	Tampering with or fabricating physical evidence relating to a capital felony.
415			
	944.35(3) (a) 2.	3rd	Committing malicious battery upon or inflicting cruel or inhuman treatment on an inmate or offender on community supervision, resulting in great bodily harm.
416			
	944.40	2nd	Escapes.
417			
	944.46	3rd	Harboring, concealing, aiding escaped prisoners.
418			
	944.47(1) (a) 5.	2nd	Introduction of contraband (firearm, weapon, or explosive) into correctional facility.

419 951.22(1)(i) 3rd Firearm or weapon introduced  
420 into county detention facility.

421 **Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
422 943.082, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (c) is  
423 added to that subsection, to read:**

424 943.082 School Safety Awareness Program.—

425 (4)(a) Law enforcement dispatch centers, school districts,  
426 schools, postsecondary institutions, and other entities  
427 identified by the department must be made aware of the mobile  
428 suspicious activity reporting tool.

429 (c) Each public postsecondary educational institution, as  
430 defined in s. 1000.04(3), shall promote the use of the mobile  
431 suspicious activity reporting tool by advertising it on the  
432 institution website, by installing it on all mobile devices  
433 issued by the institution, and by bookmarking the website on all  
434 computer devices maintained by the institution.

435 **Section 5. Section 1001.2921, Florida Statutes, is amended  
436 to read:**

437 1001.2921 Security funding for Catholic schools and Jewish  
438 day schools and preschools.—

439 (1) As authorized by and consistent with funds  
440 appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, the Department  
441 of Education shall establish a program to provide funds to make

442     Catholic schools and full-time Jewish day schools and preschools  
443     in the state secure with professional security hardening, as  
444     needed, to better secure facilities of such schools and  
445     preschools and to protect their students. Based on a risk  
446     assessment by law enforcement or a private security company,  
447     recurring funds shall be used towards:

448         (a) The purchase and installation of security cameras,  
449         perimeter lighting, perimeter fencing, and shatter-resistant  
450         glass for windows.

451         (b) Hiring or contracting with security personnel who are  
452         licensed and regulated by the state and insured.

453         (c) Expenses relating to transportation to minimize  
454         security exposure of staff, parents, and students.

455         (d) Other nonhardening security measures, including, but  
456         not limited to, providing professional detection, prevention,  
457         and security services to such schools and preschools.

458             (2) Funds shall be provided to Catholic elementary, middle  
459             and high schools in the following order of priority:

460                 (a) The school is supported by an archdiocese, and law  
461                 enforcement responded to a threat of a potential shooter during  
462                 the 2025-2026 school year.

463                 (b) The school is supported by an archdiocese or diocese.

464                 (3)-(2) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to  
465                 administer this section.

466         **Section 6. Subsection (4) is added to section 1003.25,**

467 **Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is**  
468 **republished, to read:**

469 1003.25 Procedures for maintenance and transfer of student  
470 records.—

471 (2) The procedure for transferring and maintaining records  
472 of students who transfer from school to school is prescribed by  
473 rules of the State Board of Education. The transfer of records  
474 must occur within 5 school days. The records must include, if  
475 applicable:

476 (a) Verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior  
477 patterns, including any threat assessment report, all  
478 corresponding documentation, and any other information required  
479 by the Florida-specific behavioral threat assessment instrument  
480 pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) which contains the evaluation,  
481 intervention, and management of the threat assessment  
482 evaluations and intervention services.

483 (b) Psychological evaluations, including therapeutic  
484 treatment plans and therapy or progress notes created or  
485 maintained by school district or charter school staff, as  
486 appropriate.

487 (4) When the education records of a student contain the  
488 documents described in subsection (2) and the student enrolls in  
489 a Florida College System institution or state university, such  
490 records must be transferred to his or her institution or  
491 university of enrollment. The State Board of Education and the

492 Board of Governors shall adopt rules and regulations,  
493 respectively, to establish the procedures for the transfer of a  
494 student's threat assessment report pursuant to this subsection.

495 **Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section**

496 **1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

497 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student  
498 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall  
499 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the  
500 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper  
501 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the  
502 welfare of students, including:

503 (6) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—Each district  
504 school superintendent shall establish policies and procedures  
505 for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including the  
506 assessment of and intervention with individuals whose behavior  
507 poses a threat to the safety of the school community.

508 (a) School safety specialist.—Each district school  
509 superintendent shall designate a school safety specialist for  
510 the district. The school safety specialist must be a school  
511 administrator employed by the school district or a law  
512 enforcement officer employed by the sheriff's office located in  
513 the school district. Any school safety specialist designated  
514 from the sheriff's office must first be authorized and approved  
515 by the sheriff employing the law enforcement officer. Any school  
516 safety specialist designated from the sheriff's office remains

517 the employee of the office for purposes of compensation,  
518 insurance, workers' compensation, and other benefits authorized  
519 by law for a law enforcement officer employed by the sheriff's  
520 office. The sheriff and the school superintendent may determine  
521 by agreement the reimbursement for such costs, or may share the  
522 costs, associated with employment of the law enforcement officer  
523 as a school safety specialist. The school safety specialist must  
524 earn a certificate of completion of the school safety specialist  
525 training provided by the Office of Safe Schools within 1 year  
526 after appointment and is responsible for the supervision and  
527 oversight for all school safety and security personnel,  
528 policies, and procedures in the school district. The school  
529 safety specialist, or his or her designee, shall:

530 1. In conjunction with the district school superintendent,  
531 annually review school district policies and procedures for  
532 compliance with state law and rules, including the district's  
533 timely and accurate submission of school environmental safety  
534 incident reports to the department pursuant to s. 1001.212(8).  
535 At least quarterly, the school safety specialist must report to  
536 the district school superintendent and the district school board  
537 any noncompliance by the school district with laws or rules  
538 regarding school safety.

539 2. Provide the necessary training and resources to  
540 students and school district staff in matters relating to youth  
541 mental health awareness and assistance; emergency procedures,

542 including active shooter training; and school safety and  
543 security. Such training for classroom teachers and other members  
544 of instructional staff must explain the purpose, importance, and  
545 proper execution of school safety protocols and emergency  
546 procedures.

547 3. Serve as the school district liaison with local public  
548 safety agencies and national, state, and community agencies and  
549 organizations in matters of school safety and security.

550 4. In collaboration with the appropriate public safety  
551 agencies, as that term is defined in s. 365.171, by October 1 of  
552 each year, conduct a school security risk assessment at each  
553 public school using the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool  
554 developed by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.  
555 1006.1493. Based on the assessment findings, the district's  
556 school safety specialist shall provide recommendations to the  
557 district school superintendent and the district school board  
558 which identify strategies and activities that the district  
559 school board should implement in order to address the findings  
560 and improve school safety and security. Each district school  
561 board must receive such findings and the school safety  
562 specialist's recommendations at a publicly noticed district  
563 school board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to  
564 hear the district school board members discuss and take action  
565 on the findings and recommendations. Each school safety  
566 specialist, through the district school superintendent, shall

567 report such findings and school board action to the Office of  
568 Safe Schools within 30 days after the district school board  
569 meeting.

570 5. Conduct annual unannounced inspections, using the form  
571 adopted by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.  
572 1001.212(13), of all public schools, including charter schools,  
573 while school is in session and investigate reports of  
574 noncompliance with school safety requirements.

575 6. Report violations of paragraph (f) by administrative  
576 personnel and instructional personnel to the district school  
577 superintendent or charter school administrator, as applicable.

578 **Section 8. Subsection (7) of section 1006.12, Florida  
579 Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and  
580 paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of that section are reenacted,  
581 to read:**

582 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For  
583 the protection and safety of school personnel, property,  
584 students, and visitors, each district school board and school  
585 district superintendent shall partner with law enforcement  
586 agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more  
587 safe-school officers at each school facility within the  
588 district, including charter schools. A district school board  
589 must collaborate with charter school governing boards to  
590 facilitate charter school access to all safe-school officer  
591 options available under this section. The school district may

592 implement any combination of the options in subsections (1)-(4)  
593 to best meet the needs of the school district and charter  
594 schools.

595 (3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—

596 (a) At the school district's or the charter school  
597 governing board's discretion, as applicable, pursuant to s.  
598 30.15, a school district or charter school governing board may  
599 participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach  
600 Scott Beigel Guardian Program to meet the requirement of  
601 establishing a safe-school officer. The following individuals  
602 may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned  
603 activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory  
604 completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and  
605 certification by a sheriff:

606 1. A school district employee or personnel, as defined  
607 under s. 1012.01, or a charter school employee, as provided  
608 under s. 1002.33(12)(a), who volunteers to serve as a school  
609 guardian in addition to his or her official job duties; or

610 2. An employee of a school district or a charter school  
611 who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school  
612 guardian.

613 (4) SCHOOL SECURITY GUARD.—A school district or charter  
614 school governing board may contract with a security agency as  
615 defined in s. 493.6101(18) to employ as a school security guard  
616 an individual who holds a Class "D" and Class "G" license

617 pursuant to chapter 493, provided the following training and  
618 contractual conditions are met:

619 (a) An individual who serves as a school security guard,  
620 for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section,  
621 must:

622 1. Demonstrate completion of 144 hours of required  
623 training conducted by a sheriff pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.

624 2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a  
625 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the  
626 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the  
627 evaluation to the sheriff's office and school district, charter  
628 school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
629 applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to  
630 provide the sheriff's office, school district, charter school  
631 governing board, or employing security agency with mental health  
632 and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

633 3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent  
634 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.  
635 112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, charter  
636 school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
637 applicable.

638 4. Be approved to work as a school security guard by the  
639 sheriff of each county in which the school security guard will  
640 be assigned to a school before commencing work at any school in  
641 that county. The sheriff's approval authorizes the security

642 agency to assign the school security guard to any school in the  
643 county, and the sheriff's approval is not limited to any  
644 particular school.

645 5. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon  
646 inspection, and firearm qualification conducted by a sheriff  
647 pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.e. on at least an annual basis and  
648 provide documentation to the sheriff's office, school district,  
649 charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
650 applicable.

651 (7) LIMITATIONS.—An individual must satisfy the background  
652 screening, psychological evaluation, and drug test requirements  
653 and be approved by the sheriff before participating in any  
654 training required by s. 30.15(1)(k), ~~which may be conducted only~~  
655 ~~by a sheriff.~~

656  
657 If a district school board, through its adopted policies,  
658 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any  
659 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school  
660 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety  
661 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the  
662 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource  
663 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school  
664 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.  
665 1011.62(12) and shall be retained by the school district.

666 **Section 9. Section 1006.601, Florida Statutes, is created**

667 **to read:**

668 1006.601 Student safety.—

669 (1) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term "public  
670 postsecondary educational institution" has the same meaning as  
671 in s. 1000.04(3).

672 (2) SCHOOL GUARDIANS.—

673 (a) Public postsecondary educational institutions are  
674 authorized to participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis,  
675 and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program and may appoint  
676 certified school guardians pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k).

677 (b) An employee or faculty member, who is not a student,  
678 of a public postsecondary educational institution may serve as a  
679 school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for  
680 purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the  
681 requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a  
682 sheriff.

683 (3) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—

684 (a) Response plans.—Each public postsecondary educational  
685 institution shall:

686 1. Adopt an active assailant response plan, including  
687 methods for issuing campus-wide alerts, and annually certify  
688 that all faculty, staff, and students have completed active  
689 assailant preparedness training. The plan must clearly identify  
690 who may issue an emergency alert.

691 2. Adopt, in cooperation with local law enforcement

692 agencies and local government, a family reunification plan to  
693 reunite students and employees with their families in the event  
694 that an institution is closed or unexpectedly evacuated due to a  
695 natural or manmade disaster. This reunification plan must be  
696 reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

697 (b) Student mental health.—Each public postsecondary  
698 educational institution shall:

699 1. Train faculty to detect and respond to mental health  
700 issues as well as connect students who may experience behavioral  
701 health issues with appropriate services, both on campus and in  
702 the community, including crisis intervention.

703 2. Post on its website and in conspicuous locations at  
704 each institution a mental health awareness and suicide  
705 prevention sign that identifies ways a person can access help  
706 and services. Physical signs must be at least 11 inches by 15  
707 inches in size and must be printed in an easily legible font and  
708 in at least 32-point type.

709 3. Establish threat management teams whose duties include  
710 the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention  
711 with students whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of  
712 the institution, institution staff, or students. The threat  
713 management team must use the statewide behavioral threat  
714 management operational process and Florida-specific behavioral  
715 threat assessment instrument developed by the Office of Safe  
716 Schools pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) or another comparable tool

717 deemed appropriate for postsecondary institutions by the State  
718 Board of Education and Board of Governors.

719  
720 The Commissioner of Education and the Chancellor of the State  
721 University System shall provide guidance on when and how  
722 administrators, mental health providers, and other appropriate  
723 personnel are legally entitled to share and receive information  
724 about individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others,  
725 including, but not limited to, the transmission of education  
726 records pursuant to s. 1003.25(4).

727 (c) Security risk assessment.—Each public postsecondary  
728 educational institution, in collaboration with appropriate  
729 public safety agencies, as defined in s. 365.171(3)(d), shall  
730 annually conduct a security risk assessment at each campus using  
731 the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool developed by the Office  
732 of Safe Schools pursuant to s. 1006.1493 or another comparable  
733 tool deemed appropriate for postsecondary institutions by the  
734 State Board of Education and Board of Governors. Subject to an  
735 appropriation, the institution may apply for grant funds for  
736 security improvements to its campus based on findings in the  
737 security risk assessment.

738 (d) Student, faculty, and staff supports.—Each public  
739 postsecondary educational institution must adopt policies and  
740 procedures to support students, faculty, and staff who are the  
741 victims of an incident constituting an act of violence or an

742     attempted act of violence or who are subjected to a credible  
743     threat as defined in s. 784.048(1)(c). The policies shall:

744         1. Outline the supports available to affected persons,  
745         which may include work or class relocation, security escorts,  
746         and restricting access to certain areas by individuals who  
747         created the incident.

748         2. Provide for timely updates to an affected person  
749         regarding any action taken by the institution in response to the  
750         incident.

751             (4) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The State Board of Education  
752         and the Board of Governors may adopt rules and regulations,  
753         respectively, to implement this section.

754             **Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**  
755         **made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a**  
756         **reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (19) of section**  
757         **402.305, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

758             402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

759             (19) SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS.—

760             (a) A child care facility may partner with a law  
761         enforcement agency or a security agency to establish or assign  
762         one or more safe-school officers established in s. 1006.12(1)—  
763         (4). The child care facility is responsible for the full cost of  
764         implementing any such option, which includes all training costs  
765         under the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel  
766         Guardian Program under s. 30.15(1)(k).

767       **Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**  
768 **made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a**  
769 **reference thereto, section 843.08, Florida Statutes, is**  
770 **reenacted to read:**

771       843.08 False personation.—A person who falsely assumes or  
772 pretends to be a firefighter, a sheriff, an officer of the  
773 Florida Highway Patrol, an officer of the Fish and Wildlife  
774 Conservation Commission, an officer of the Department of  
775 Environmental Protection, an officer of the Department of  
776 Financial Services, any personnel or representative of the  
777 Division of Criminal Investigations, an officer of the  
778 Department of Corrections, a correctional probation officer, a  
779 deputy sheriff, a state attorney or an assistant state attorney,  
780 a statewide prosecutor or an assistant statewide prosecutor, a  
781 state attorney investigator, a coroner, a police officer, a  
782 lottery special agent or lottery investigator, a beverage  
783 enforcement agent, a school guardian as described in s.  
784 30.15(1)(k), a security officer licensed under chapter 493, any  
785 member of the Florida Commission on Offender Review or any  
786 administrative aide or supervisor employed by the commission,  
787 any personnel or representative of the Department of Law  
788 Enforcement, or a federal law enforcement officer as defined in  
789 s. 901.1505, and takes upon himself or herself to act as such,  
790 or to require any other person to aid or assist him or her in a  
791 matter pertaining to the duty of any such officer, commits a

792       felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.  
793       775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. However, a person who  
794       falsely personates any such officer during the course of the  
795       commission of a felony commits a felony of the second degree,  
796       punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.  
797       If the commission of the felony results in the death or personal  
798       injury of another human being, the person commits a felony of  
799       the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.  
800       775.083, or s. 775.084. In determining whether a defendant has  
801       violated this section, the court or jury may consider any  
802       relevant evidence, including, but not limited to, whether the  
803       defendant used lights in violation of s. 316.2397 or s. 843.081.

804       **Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
805       made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a  
806       reference thereto, subsection (16) of section 943.03, Florida  
807       Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

808       943.03 Department of Law Enforcement.—

809       (16) Upon request, the department shall consult with  
810       sheriffs to provide input regarding programmatic guiding  
811       principles, practices, and resources in order to assist in the  
812       development and implementation of the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron  
813       Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program established  
814       pursuant to s. 30.15. Such input and guidance may include, but  
815       need not be limited to, standards, curriculum, instructional  
816       strategies, evaluation, certification, records retention,

817 equipment, and other resource needs.

818 **Section 13. For the purpose of incorporating the**  
819 **amendments made by this act to sections 943.082 and 1006.07,**  
820 **Florida Statutes, in references thereto, subsections (1), (4),**  
821 **and (10) of section 1001.212, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to**  
822 **read:**

823 1001.212 Office of Safe Schools.—There is created in the  
824 Department of Education the Office of Safe Schools. The office  
825 is fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education. The  
826 office shall serve as a central repository for best practices,  
827 training standards, and compliance oversight in all matters  
828 regarding school safety and security, including prevention  
829 efforts, intervention efforts, and emergency preparedness  
830 planning. The office shall:

831 (1) Establish and update as necessary a school security  
832 risk assessment tool for use by school districts pursuant to s.  
833 1006.07(6). The office shall make the security risk assessment  
834 tool available for use by charter schools. The office shall  
835 provide annual training to appropriate school district and  
836 charter school personnel on the proper assessment of physical  
837 site security and completion of the school security risk  
838 assessment tool.

839 (4) Develop and implement a School Safety Specialist  
840 Training Program for school safety specialists appointed  
841 pursuant to s. 1006.07(6). The office shall develop the training

842 program which shall be based on national and state best  
843 practices on school safety and security and must include active  
844 shooter training. The office shall develop training modules in  
845 traditional or online formats. A school safety specialist  
846 certificate of completion shall be awarded to a school safety  
847 specialist who satisfactorily completes the training required by  
848 rules of the office.

849 (10) Disseminate, in consultation with the Department of  
850 Law Enforcement, to participating schools awareness and  
851 education materials on the proper use of the School Safety  
852 Awareness Program developed pursuant to s. 943.082, including  
853 the consequences of knowingly submitting false information.

854 **Section 14.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
855 act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.