

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to school safety; amending s. 30.15,
3 F.S.; requiring sheriffs to assist public
4 postsecondary educational institutions in implementing
5 guardian programs under certain provisions;
6 authorizing a law enforcement agency to provide
7 training; defining the term "law enforcement agency";
8 authorizing public postsecondary educational
9 institutions to participate in the school guardian
10 program; requiring public postsecondary educational
11 institutions to provide a specified notice to the
12 sheriff; amending s. 790.115, F.S.; creating the
13 offense of discharging a weapon or firearm within
14 1,000 feet of a school; providing an exception;
15 providing that a person arrested for certain offenses
16 must be held in custody until brought before the court
17 for admittance to bail; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.;
18 ranking an offense created by the act on the offense
19 severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment
20 Code; amending s. 943.082, F.S.; requiring that
21 postsecondary institutions be made aware of the mobile
22 suspicious activity reporting tool in a specified
23 manner; requiring public postsecondary educational
24 institutions to promote the use of such tool; amending
25 s. 1001.2921, F.S.; authorizing funds for Catholic

26 schools for specified security purposes; prioritizing
27 the use of such funds; amending s. 1003.25, F.S.;
28 requiring specified educational records for certain
29 students to be transferred to a Florida College System
30 institution or state university under certain
31 circumstances; requiring the State Board of Education
32 and the Board of Governors to adopt rules and
33 regulations, respectively; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.;
34 requiring certain trainings to include specified
35 information relating to school safety; reenacting and
36 amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; removing the requirement
37 that only sheriffs may provide required school
38 guardian training; creating s. 1006.601, F.S.;
39 defining the term "public postsecondary educational
40 institution"; authorizing such institutions to
41 participate in certain programs; authorizing such
42 institutions to appoint certified school guardians;
43 authorizing specified persons to serve as school
44 guardians; requiring such institutions to adopt
45 specified emergency response plans; requiring such
46 institutions to provide specified training, post
47 specified information, and adopt threat management
48 processes; requiring such institutions to develop
49 policies for specified student, faculty, and staff
50 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

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

c. A private school or child care facility in a school district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of the private school or child care facility establish a guardian training program for the purpose of training private school employees, child care facility employees, or school security guards. If the county sheriff denies the request, the private school or child care facility may contract with a law enforcement agency that ~~sheriff from another county who~~ has established a guardian training program under subparagraph 2. to 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity
ranking chart.—

(3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

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351 (f) LEVEL 6

352

Florida Statute	Felony Degree
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Description

353

316.027 (2) (b)	2nd	Leaving the scene of a crash involving serious bodily injury.
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354

316.193 (2) (b)	3rd	Felony DUI, 4th or subsequent conviction.
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355

316.1935 (4) (a)	2nd	Aggravated fleeing or eluding.
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356

327.30 (5) (a) 3.	2nd	Vessel accidents involving serious bodily injury; leaving scene.
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357

400.9935 (4) (c)	2nd	Operating a clinic, or offering services requiring licensure, without a license.
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358

499.0051 (2)	2nd	Knowing forgery of transaction history, transaction information, or transaction
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statement.

359

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

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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

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in s. 787.01.

374

787.025 (2) (a) 3rd Luring or enticing a child.

375

790.115 (2) (d) 2nd Discharging firearm or weapon
on school property or within
1,000 feet of a school.

376

790.161 (2) 2nd Make, possess, or throw
destructive device with intent
to do bodily harm or damage
property.

377

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.

378

790.19 2nd Shooting or throwing deadly
missiles into dwellings,
vessels, or vehicles.

379

794.011 (8) (a) 3rd Solicitation of minor to

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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.

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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.

812.13(2)(c) 2nd Robbery, no firearm or other
weapon (strong-arm robbery).

817.4821(5) 2nd Possess cloning paraphernalia
with intent to create cloned
cellular telephones.

817.49(2)(b)2. 2nd Willful making of a false
report of a crime resulting in
death.

817.505(4)(b) 2nd Patient brokering; 10 or more
patients.

817.5695(3)(b) 2nd Exploitation of person 65 years
of age or older, value \$10,000
or more, but less than \$50,000.

825.102(1) 3rd Abuse of an elderly person or
disabled adult.

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

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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

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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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section
1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

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

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

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

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

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

2. Provide the necessary training and resources to students and school district staff in matters relating to youth 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

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

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

943.03 Department of Law Enforcement.—

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

equipment, and other resource needs.

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

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

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

(4) Develop and implement a School Safety Specialist Training Program for school safety specialists appointed 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.