

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 public postsecondary educational
7 institutions to participate in the school guardian
8 program; requiring a sheriff to establish a guardian
9 training program or contract with certain other
10 sheriff's offices to do so in certain circumstances;
11 removing provisions relating to certain private school
12 and child care facility guardian programs; amending s.
13 790.115, F.S.; creating the offense of discharging a
14 weapon or firearm within 1,000 feet of a school;
15 providing an exception; providing that a person
16 arrested for certain offenses must be held in custody
17 until brought before the court for admittance to bail;
18 amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; ranking an offense created
19 by the act on the offense severity ranking chart of
20 the Criminal Punishment Code; amending s. 943.082,
21 F.S.; requiring that postsecondary institutions be
22 made aware of the mobile suspicious activity reporting
23 tool in a specified manner; requiring certain public
24 postsecondary educational institutions to promote the
25 use of such tool; amending s. 1003.25, F.S.; requiring

26 specified educational records for certain students to
27 be transferred to a Florida College System institution
28 or state university under certain circumstances;
29 requiring the State Board of Education and the Board
30 of Governors to adopt rules and regulations,
31 respectively; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; requiring
32 certain trainings to include specified information
33 relating to school safety; authorizing, in certain
34 circumstances, state universities and Florida College
35 System institutions to share specified records or
36 information that are confidential or exempt from
37 disclosure with specified agencies; creating s.
38 1006.601, F.S.; providing a short title; defining the
39 term "public postsecondary educational institution";
40 authorizing such institutions to participate in
41 certain programs; authorizing such institutions to
42 appoint certified school guardians; authorizing
43 specified persons to serve as school guardians;
44 requiring such institutions to adopt specified
45 emergency response plans; requiring such institutions
46 to provide specified training, post specified
47 information, and adopt threat management processes;
48 requiring such institutions to develop policies for
49 specified student, faculty, and staff supports;
50 authorizing the State Board of Education and the Board

51 of Governors to adopt rules and regulations,
52 respectively; reenacting ss. 402.305(19)(a), 843.08,
53 943.03(16), 1001.212(1) and (4), and 1006.12(3)(a),
54 (4)(a), and (7), F.S., relating to licensing standards
55 for child care facilities, false personation, the
56 Department of Law Enforcement, the Office of Safe
57 Schools, and safe-school officers at each public
58 school, respectively; providing effective dates.

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

61
62 Section 1. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section
63 30.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

64 30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.—

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

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

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

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

96 b. Upon the request of a private school, child care
97 facility, public postsecondary educational institution, or A
98 charter school governing board in a school district that has not
99 implemented ~~voted, or has declined, to implement~~ a guardian
100 program, ~~may request~~ the sheriff in the county must ~~to~~ establish

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

116 ~~e. A private school or child care facility in a school~~
117 ~~district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a~~
118 ~~guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of~~
119 ~~the private school or child care facility establish a guardian~~
120 ~~program for the purpose of training private school employees,~~
121 ~~child care facility employees, or school security guards. If the~~
122 ~~county sheriff denies the request, the private school or child~~
123 ~~care facility may contract with a sheriff from another county~~
124 ~~who has established a guardian 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
131 sheriff providing such training must ensure that any moneys paid
132 by a private school, child care facility, or security agency are
133 not commingled with any funds provided by the state to the
134 sheriff as reimbursement for screening-related and training-
135 related costs ~~of any school district or charter school employee.~~

136 c.d. The training program required in sub-subparagraph
137 2.b. is a standardized statewide curriculum, and each sheriff
138 providing such training shall adhere to the course of
139 instruction specified in that sub-subparagraph. The costs for
140 the training program shall be consistent with guidelines
141 established by the Florida Sheriffs Association. This
142 subparagraph does not prohibit a sheriff from providing
143 additional training. Any additional training shall be provided
144 at no cost to a private school, child care facility, or security
145 agency. A school guardian or school security guard who has
146 completed the training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b.
147 may not be required to attend another sheriff's training program
148 pursuant to that sub-subparagraph unless there has been at least
149 a 1-year break in his or her appointment as a guardian or
150 employment by a security agency as a school security guard in a

151 school.

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

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

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

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

183 a. Hold a valid license issued under s. 790.06 or are
184 otherwise eligible to possess or carry a concealed firearm under
185 chapter 790.

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

193 (I) Eighty hours of firearms instruction based on the
194 Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission's Law
195 Enforcement Academy training model, which must include at least
196 10 percent but no more than 20 percent more rounds fired than
197 associated with academy training. Program participants must
198 achieve an 85 percent pass rate on the firearms training.

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

200 (III) Eight hours of discretionary shooting instruction

201 using state-of-the-art simulator exercises.

202 (IV) Sixteen hours of instruction in active shooter or
203 assailant scenarios.

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

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

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

213 d. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent
214 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.
215 112.0455 and the sheriff's office.

216 e. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon
217 inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual
218 basis.

219
220 The sheriff who conducts the guardian training or waives the
221 training requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.g.
222 shall issue a school guardian certificate to persons who meet
223 the requirements of this section to the satisfaction of the
224 sheriff, and shall maintain documentation of weapon and
225 equipment inspections, as well as the training, certification,

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

242 3.a. Within 30 days after issuing a school guardian or
243 school security guard certificate, the sheriff who issued the
244 certificate must report to the Department of Law Enforcement the
245 name, date of birth, and certification date of the school
246 guardian or school security guard.

247 b. By February 1 and September 1 of each school year, each
248 school district, charter school, employing security agency,
249 public postsecondary educational institution, private school,
250 and child care facility must report in the manner prescribed to

the Department of Law Enforcement the name, date of birth, and appointment date of each person appointed as a school guardian or employed as a school security guard. The school district, charter school, employing security agency, public postsecondary educational institution, private school, and child care facility must also report in the manner prescribed to the Department of Law Enforcement the date each school guardian or school security guard separates from his or her appointment as a school guardian or employment as a school security guard in a school.

c. The Department of Law Enforcement shall maintain a list of each person appointed as a school guardian or certified as a school security guard in the state. The list must include the name and certification date of each school guardian and school security guard and the date the person was appointed as a school guardian or certified as a school security guard, including the name of the school district, charter school, public postsecondary educational institution, private school, or child care facility in which the school guardian is appointed, or the 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

276 1.d.

277 d. Each sheriff shall report on a quarterly basis to the
278 Department of Law Enforcement the schedule for upcoming school
279 guardian trainings, to include guardian trainings for school
280 security guards, including the dates of the training, the
281 training locations, a contact person to register for the
282 training, and the class capacity. If no trainings are scheduled,
283 the sheriff is not required to report to the Department of Law
284 Enforcement. The Department of Law Enforcement shall publish on
285 its website a list of the upcoming school guardian trainings.
286 The Department of Law Enforcement shall update such list
287 quarterly.

288 e. A sheriff who fails to report the information required
289 by this subparagraph may not receive reimbursement from the
290 Department of Education for school guardian trainings. Upon the
291 submission of the required information, a sheriff is deemed
292 eligible for such funding and is authorized to continue to
293 receive reimbursement for school guardian training.

294 f. A school district, charter school, public postsecondary
295 educational institution, private school, child care facility, or
296 employing security agency that fails to report the information
297 required by this subparagraph is prohibited from operating a
298 school guardian program or employing school security guards in
299 the following school year unless the missing information is
300 provided.

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

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

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

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

(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

(f) LEVEL 6

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
316.027 (2) (b)	2nd	Leaving the scene of a crash involving serious bodily

injury.

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

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

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

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

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

499.0051 (3) 2nd Knowing purchase or receipt of
prescription drug from
unauthorized person.

499.0051 (4) 2nd Knowing sale or transfer of

prescription drug to
unauthorized person.

354

775.0875 (1) 3rd Taking firearm from law
enforcement officer.

355

784.021 (1) (a) 3rd Aggravated assault; deadly
weapon without intent to kill.

356

784.021 (1) (b) 3rd Aggravated assault; intent to
commit felony.

357

784.041 3rd Felony battery; domestic
battery by strangulation.

358

784.048 (3) 3rd Aggravated stalking; credible
threat.

359

784.048 (5) 3rd Aggravated stalking of person
under 16.

360

784.07 (2) (c) 2nd Aggravated assault on law
enforcement officer.

361

784.074 (1) (b) 2nd Aggravated assault on sexually

violent predators facility
staff.

784.08 (2) (b) 2nd Aggravated assault on a person
65 years of age or older.

784.081 (2) 2nd Aggravated assault on specified
official or employee.

784.082 (2) 2nd Aggravated assault by detained
person on visitor or other
detainee.

784.083 (2) 2nd Aggravated assault on code
inspector.

787.02 (2) 3rd False imprisonment; restraining
with purpose other than those
in s. 787.01.

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

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

369	790.161 (2)	2nd	Make, possess, or throw destructive device with intent to do bodily harm or damage property.
370	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.
371	790.19	2nd	Shooting or throwing deadly missiles into dwellings, vessels, or vehicles.
372	794.011 (8) (a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to participate in sexual activity by custodial adult.
373	794.05 (1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with specified minor.
374	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.

800.04 (6) (b) 2nd Lewd or lascivious conduct;
offender 18 years of age or
older.

806.031 (2) 2nd Arson resulting in great bodily
harm to firefighter or any
other person.

810.02 (3) (c) 2nd Burglary of occupied structure;
unarmed; no assault or battery.

810.145 (8) (b) 2nd Digital voyeurism; certain
minor victims; 2nd or
subsequent offense.

812.014 (2) (b) 1. 2nd Property stolen \$20,000 or
more, but less than \$100,000,
grand theft in 2nd degree.

812.014 (2) (c) 5. 3rd Grand theft; third degree;
firearm.

381	812.014 (6)	2nd	Theft; property stolen \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
382	812.015 (9) (a)	2nd	Retail theft; property stolen \$750 or more; second or subsequent conviction.
383	812.015 (9) (b)	2nd	Retail theft; aggregated property stolen within 120 days is \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
384	812.015 (9) (d)	2nd	Retail theft; multiple thefts within specified period.
385	812.015 (9) (e)	2nd	Retail theft; committed with specified number of other persons and use of social media platform.
386	812.13 (2) (c)	2nd	Robbery, no firearm or other weapon (strong-arm robbery).

382	812.015 (9) (a)	2nd	Retail theft; property stolen \$750 or more; second or subsequent conviction.
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383	812.015(9) (b)	2nd	Retail theft; aggregated property stolen within 120 days is \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.
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384	812.015 (9) (d)	2nd	Retail theft; multiple thefts within specified period.
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385	812.015(9) (e)	2nd	Retail theft; committed with specified number of other persons and use of social media platform.
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386	812.13(2)(c)	2nd	Robbery, no firearm or other weapon (strong-arm robbery).
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387

388	817.4821 (5)	2nd	Possess cloning paraphernalia with intent to create cloned cellular telephones.
389	817.49 (2) (b) 2.	2nd	Willful making of a false report of a crime resulting in death.
390	817.505 (4) (b)	2nd	Patient brokering; 10 or more patients.
391	817.5695 (3) (b)	2nd	Exploitation of person 65 years of age or older, value \$10,000 or more, but less than \$50,000.
392	825.102 (1)	3rd	Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult.
393	825.102 (3) (c)	3rd	Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.
394	825.1025 (3)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation of an elderly person or disabled adult.

395	825.103(3)(c)	3rd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at less than \$10,000.
396	827.03(2)(c)	3rd	Abuse of a child.
397	827.03(2)(d)	3rd	Neglect of a child.
398	827.071(5)	3rd	Possess, control, or intentionally view any photographic material, motion picture, etc., which includes child pornography.
399	828.126(3)	3rd	Sexual activities involving animals.
400	836.05	2nd	Threats; extortion.
401	836.10	2nd	Written or electronic threats to kill, do bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism.
	843.12	3rd	Aids or assists person to

escape.

402

847.011

3rd

Distributing, offering to
distribute, or possessing with
intent to distribute obscene
materials depicting minors.

403

847.012

3rd

Knowingly using a minor in the
production of materials harmful
to minors.

404

847.0135(2)

3rd

Facilitates sexual conduct of
or with a minor or the visual
depiction of such conduct.

405

893.131

2nd

Distribution of controlled
substances resulting in
overdose or serious bodily
injury.

406

914.23

2nd

Retaliation against a witness,
victim, or informant, with
bodily injury.

407

918.13(2)(b)

2nd

Tampering with or fabricating

physical evidence relating to a
capital felony.

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.

944.40 2nd Escapes.

944.46 3rd Harboring, concealing, aiding
escaped prisoners.

944.47 (1) (a) 5. 2nd Introduction of contraband
(firearm, weapon, or explosive)
into correctional facility.

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

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

417 943.082 School Safety Awareness Program.—

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

422 (c) Each public postsecondary educational institution, as
423 defined in s. 1000.04(3), that does not have an existing public
424 safety reporting application as of July 1, 2026, shall promote
425 the use of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool by
426 advertising it on the institution website, by installing it on
427 all mobile devices issued by the institution, and by bookmarking
428 the website on all computer devices maintained by the
429 institution.

430 Section 5. Subsection (4) is added to section 1003.25,
431 Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is
432 republished, to read:

433 1003.25 Procedures for maintenance and transfer of student
434 records.—

435 (2) The procedure for transferring and maintaining records
436 of students who transfer from school to school is prescribed by
437 rules of the State Board of Education. The transfer of records
438 must occur within 5 school days. The records must include, if
439 applicable:

440 (a) Verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior
441 patterns, including any threat assessment report, all

corresponding documentation, and any other information required by the Florida-specific behavioral threat assessment instrument pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) which contains the evaluation, intervention, and management of the threat assessment evaluations and intervention services.

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

(4) When the education records of a student contain the documents described in subsection (2) and the student enrolls in a Florida College System institution or state university, such records must be transferred to his or her institution or 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 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) and paragraph (g) of subsection (7) of section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, are 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, including active shooter training; and school safety and security. Such training for classroom teachers and other members of instructional staff must explain the purpose, importance, and proper execution of school safety protocols and emergency procedures.

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

4. In collaboration with the appropriate public safety agencies, as that term is defined in s. 365.171, by October 1 of

each year, conduct a school security risk assessment at each public school using the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool developed by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s. 1006.1493. Based on the assessment findings, the district's school safety specialist shall provide recommendations to the district school superintendent and the district school board which identify strategies and activities that the district school board should implement in order to address the findings and improve school safety and security. Each district school board must receive such findings and the school safety specialist's recommendations at a publicly noticed district school board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to hear the district school board members discuss and take action on the findings and recommendations. Each school safety specialist, through the district school superintendent, shall report such findings and school board action to the Office of Safe Schools within 30 days after the district school board meeting.

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

6. Report violations of paragraph (f) by administrative personnel and instructional personnel to the district school

542 superintendent or charter school administrator, as applicable.

543 (7) THREAT MANAGEMENT TEAMS.—Each district school board
544 and charter school governing board shall establish a threat
545 management team at each school whose duties include the
546 coordination of resources and assessment and intervention with
547 students whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of the
548 school, school staff, or students.

549 (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all state
550 and local agencies and programs that provide services to
551 students experiencing or at risk of an emotional disturbance or
552 a mental illness, including the school districts, charter
553 schools, school personnel, state universities, Florida College
554 System institutions, state and local law enforcement agencies,
555 the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children
556 and Families, the Department of Health, the Agency for Health
557 Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities,
558 the Department of Education, the Statewide Guardian ad Litem
559 Office, and any service or support provider contracting with
560 such agencies, may share with each other records or information
561 that are confidential or exempt from disclosure under chapter
562 119 if the records or information are reasonably necessary to
563 ensure access to appropriate services for the student or to
564 ensure the safety of the student or others. All such state and
565 local agencies and programs shall communicate, collaborate, and
566 coordinate efforts to serve such students.

567 Section 7. Section 1006.601, Florida Statutes, is created
568 to read:

569 1006.601 Active Response and Mitigation of On-Campus Risks
570 (ARMOR) Act.—

571 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Active
572 Response and Mitigation of On-Campus Risks (ARMOR) Act."

573 (2) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term "public
574 postsecondary educational institution" has the same meaning as
575 in s. 1000.04(3).

576 (3) SCHOOL GUARDIANS.—

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

581 (b) An employee or faculty member, who is not a student,
582 of a public postsecondary educational institution may serve as a
583 school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for
584 purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the
585 requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a
586 sheriff.

587 (4) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—

588 (a) Response plans.—Each public postsecondary educational
589 institution shall:

590 1. Adopt an active assailant response plan, which shall
591 include methods for issuing emergency notifications pursuant to

592 20 U.S.C. s. 1092(f), and annually certify that all faculty,
593 staff, and students have completed active assailant preparedness
594 training. The plan must clearly identify all personnel who may
595 issue such emergency notifications.

596 2. Adopt, in cooperation with local law enforcement
597 agencies and local government, a family reunification plan to
598 reunite students and employees with their families in the event
599 that an institution is closed or unexpectedly evacuated due to a
600 natural or manmade disaster. This reunification plan must be
601 reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

602 (b) Student mental health.—Each public postsecondary
603 educational institution shall:

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

608 2. Post on its website and in conspicuous locations at
609 each institution a mental health awareness and suicide
610 prevention sign that identifies ways a person can access help
611 and services. Physical signs must be at least 11 inches by 15
612 inches in size and must be printed in an easily legible font and
613 in at least 32-point type.

614 3. Establish threat management teams whose duties include
615 the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention
616 with students whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of

617 the institution, institution staff, or students. The threat
618 management team must use the statewide behavioral threat
619 management operational process and Florida-specific behavioral
620 threat assessment instrument developed by the Office of Safe
621 Schools pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) or another comparable tool
622 deemed appropriate for postsecondary institutions by the State
623 Board of Education and Board of Governors.

624
625 The Commissioner of Education and the Chancellor of the State
626 University System shall provide guidance on when and how
627 administrators, mental health providers, and other appropriate
628 personnel are legally entitled to share and receive information
629 about individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others,
630 including, but not limited to, the transmission of education
631 records pursuant to s. 1003.25(4).

632 (c) Security risk assessment.—Each public postsecondary
633 educational institution, in collaboration with appropriate
634 public safety agencies, as defined in s. 365.171(3)(d), shall
635 annually conduct a security risk assessment at each campus using
636 the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool developed by the Office
637 of Safe Schools pursuant to s. 1006.1493 or another comparable
638 tool deemed appropriate for postsecondary institutions by the
639 State Board of Education and Board of Governors. Subject to an
640 appropriation, the institution may apply for grant funds for
641 security improvements to its campus based on findings in the

642 security risk assessment.

643 (d) Student, faculty, and staff supports.—Each public
644 postsecondary educational institution must adopt policies and
645 procedures to support students, faculty, and staff who are the
646 victims of an incident constituting an act of violence or an
647 attempted act of violence or who are subjected to a credible
648 threat as defined in s. 784.048(1)(c). The policies shall:

649 1. Outline the supports available to affected persons,
650 which may include work or class relocation, security escorts,
651 and restricting access to certain areas by individuals who
652 created the incident.

653 2. Provide for timely updates to an affected person
654 regarding any action taken by the institution in response to the
655 incident.

656 (5) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The State Board of Education
657 and the Board of Governors may adopt rules and regulations,
658 respectively, to implement this section.

659 Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
660 made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a
661 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (19) of section
662 402.305, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

663 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

664 (19) SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS.—

665 (a) A child care facility may partner with a law
666 enforcement agency or a security agency to establish or assign

one or more safe-school officers established in s. 1006.12(1)-(4). The child care facility is responsible for the full cost of implementing any such option, which includes all training costs under the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program under s. 30.15(1)(k).

Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 843.08, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

843.08 False personation.—A person who falsely assumes or pretends to be a firefighter, a sheriff, an officer of the Florida Highway Patrol, an officer of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, an officer of the Department of Environmental Protection, an officer of the Department of Financial Services, any personnel or representative of the Division of Criminal Investigations, an officer of the Department of Corrections, a correctional probation officer, a deputy sheriff, a state attorney or an assistant state attorney, a statewide prosecutor or an assistant statewide prosecutor, a state attorney investigator, a coroner, a police officer, a lottery special agent or lottery investigator, a beverage enforcement agent, a school guardian as described in s. 30.15(1)(k), a security officer licensed under chapter 493, any member of the Florida Commission on Offender Review or any administrative aide or supervisor employed by the commission,

any personnel or representative of the Department of Law Enforcement, or a federal law enforcement officer as defined in s. 901.1505, and takes upon himself or herself to act as such, or to require any other person to aid or assist him or her in a 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 10. 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 11. 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

742 site security and completion of the school security risk
743 assessment tool.

744 (4) Develop and implement a School Safety Specialist
745 Training Program for school safety specialists appointed
746 pursuant to s. 1006.07(6). The office shall develop the training
747 program which shall be based on national and state best
748 practices on school safety and security and must include active
749 shooter training. The office shall develop training modules in
750 traditional or online formats. A school safety specialist
751 certificate of completion shall be awarded to a school safety
752 specialist who satisfactorily completes the training required by
753 rules of the office.

754 (10) Disseminate, in consultation with the Department of
755 Law Enforcement, to participating schools awareness and
756 education materials on the proper use of the School Safety
757 Awareness Program developed pursuant to s. 943.082, including
758 the consequences of knowingly submitting false information.

759 Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
760 made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a
761 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (3), paragraph
762 (a) of subsection (4), and subsection (7) of section 1006.12,
763 Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:

764 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For
765 the protection and safety of school personnel, property,
766 students, and visitors, each district school board and school

767 district superintendent shall partner with law enforcement
768 agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more
769 safe-school officers at each school facility within the
770 district, including charter schools. A district school board
771 must collaborate with charter school governing boards to
772 facilitate charter school access to all safe-school officer
773 options available under this section. The school district may
774 implement any combination of the options in subsections (1)-(4)
775 to best meet the needs of the school district and charter
776 schools.

777 (3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—

778 (a) At the school district's or the charter school
779 governing board's discretion, as applicable, pursuant to s.
780 30.15, a school district or charter school governing board may
781 participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach
782 Scott Beigel Guardian Program to meet the requirement of
783 establishing a safe-school officer. The following individuals
784 may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned
785 activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory
786 completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and
787 certification by a sheriff:

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

792 2. An employee of a school district or a charter school
793 who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school
794 guardian.

795 (4) SCHOOL SECURITY GUARD.—A school district or charter
796 school governing board may contract with a security agency as
797 defined in s. 493.6101(18) to employ as a school security guard
798 an individual who holds a Class "D" and Class "G" license
799 pursuant to chapter 493, provided the following training and
800 contractual conditions are met:

801 (a) An individual who serves as a school security guard,
802 for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section,
803 must:

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

806 2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a
807 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the
808 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the
809 evaluation to the sheriff's office and school district, charter
810 school governing board, or employing security agency, as
811 applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to
812 provide the sheriff's office, school district, charter school
813 governing board, or employing security agency with mental health
814 and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

815 3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent
816 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.

112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as applicable.

4. Be approved to work as a school security guard by the sheriff of each county in which the school security guard will be assigned to a school before commencing work at any school in that county. The sheriff's approval authorizes the security agency to assign the school security guard to any school in the county, and the sheriff's approval is not limited to any particular school.

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

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

If a district school board, through its adopted policies, procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school

842 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety
843 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the
844 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource
845 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school
846 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.
847 1011.62(12) and shall be retained by the school district.

848 Section 13. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
849 act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.