



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/11/2026	.	
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The Committee on Criminal Justice (Gaetz) recommended the following:

1                   **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

2  
3                   Delete everything after the enacting clause  
4 and insert:

5                   Section 1. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section  
6 30.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

7                   30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.—

8                   (1) Sheriffs, in their respective counties, in person or by  
9 deputy, shall:

10                   (k) Assist district school boards and charter school



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11 governing boards in complying with, or private schools or child  
12 care facilities, as defined in s. 402.302, in exercising options  
13 in, s. 1006.12. A sheriff must also assist public postsecondary  
14 educational institutions, as described in s. 1000.04(3), in  
15 implementing a guardian program under s. 1006.601. A sheriff  
16 shall, at a minimum, provide access to a Chris Hixon, Coach  
17 Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to aid in  
18 the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on  
19 school premises, as required under this paragraph. Persons  
20 certified as school guardians pursuant to this paragraph have no  
21 authority to act in any law enforcement capacity except to the  
22 extent necessary to prevent or abate an active assailant  
23 incident.

24 1.a. If a local school board has voted by a majority to  
25 implement a guardian program or has contracted for the use of  
26 school security guards to satisfy the requirements of s.  
27 1006.12, the sheriff in that county must establish a guardian  
28 program to provide training for school guardians or school  
29 security guards, pursuant to subparagraph 2., to school  
30 district, charter school, public postsecondary educational  
31 institution, private school, child care facility, or security  
32 agency employees, either directly or through a contract with  
33 another sheriff's office that has established a guardian  
34 program. The security agency employing a school security guard  
35 is responsible for all training and screening-related costs for  
36 a school security guard, but such charges may not exceed the  
37 actual cost incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

38 b. A public postsecondary educational institution or  
39 charter school governing board in a school district that has not



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40 voted, or has declined, to implement a guardian program may  
41 request the sheriff in the county to establish a guardian  
42 program for the purpose of training the public postsecondary  
43 educational institution or charter school employees or school  
44 security guards consistent with the requirements of subparagraph  
45 2. If the county sheriff denies the request, the public  
46 postsecondary educational institution or charter school  
47 governing board may contract with a sheriff that has established  
48 a guardian program to provide such training. The charter school  
49 governing board must notify the superintendent and the sheriff  
50 in the charter school's county of the contract prior to its  
51 execution. The public postsecondary educational institution must  
52 notify the sheriff in the public postsecondary educational  
53 institution's county of the contract prior to its execution. The  
54 security agency employing a school security guard is responsible  
55 for all training and screening-related costs for a school  
56 security guard, but such charges may not exceed the actual cost  
57 incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

58 c. A private school or child care facility in a school  
59 district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a  
60 guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of  
61 the private school or child care facility establish a guardian  
62 program for the purpose of training private school employees,  
63 child care facility employees, or school security guards. If the  
64 county sheriff denies the request, the private school or child  
65 care facility may contract with a sheriff from another county  
66 who has established a guardian program under subparagraph 2. to  
67 provide such training. The private school or child care facility  
68 must notify the sheriff in the private school's or child care



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69 facility's county of the contract with a sheriff from another  
70 county before its execution. The private school, child care  
71 facility, or security agency is responsible for all training and  
72 screening-related costs for a school guardian program. The  
73 sheriff providing such training must ensure that any moneys paid  
74 by a private school, child care facility, or security agency are  
75 not commingled with any funds provided by the state to the  
76 sheriff as reimbursement for screening-related and training-  
77 related costs of any school district or charter school employee.

78       d. The training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b.  
79 is a standardized statewide curriculum, and each sheriff  
80 providing such training shall adhere to the course of  
81 instruction specified in that sub-subparagraph. This  
82 subparagraph does not prohibit a sheriff from providing  
83 additional training. A school guardian or school security guard  
84 who has completed the training program required in sub-  
85 subparagraph 2.b. may not be required to attend another  
86 sheriff's training program pursuant to that sub-subparagraph  
87 unless there has been at least a 1-year break in his or her  
88 appointment as a guardian or employment by a security agency as  
89 a school security guard in a school.

90       e. The sheriff conducting the training pursuant to  
91 subparagraph 2. for school district, and charter school, or  
92 public postsecondary educational institution employees will be  
93 reimbursed for screening-related and training-related costs and  
94 for providing a one-time stipend of \$500 to each school guardian  
95 who participates in the school guardian program.

96       f. The sheriff may waive the training and screening-related  
97 costs for a private school or child care facility for a school



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98 guardian program. Funds provided pursuant to sub-subparagraph e.  
99 may not be used to subsidize any costs that have been waived by  
100 the sheriff. The sheriff may not waive the training and  
101 screening-related costs required to be paid by a security agency  
102 for initial training or ongoing training of a school security  
103 guard.

104 g. A person who is certified and in good standing under the  
105 Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, who  
106 meets the qualifications established in s. 943.13, and who is  
107 otherwise qualified for the position of a school guardian or  
108 school security guard may be certified as a school guardian or  
109 school security guard by the sheriff without completing the  
110 training requirements of sub-subparagraph 2.b. However, a person  
111 certified as a school guardian or school security guard under  
112 this sub-subparagraph must meet the requirements of sub-  
113 subparagraphs 2.c.-e.

114 2. A sheriff who establishes a program shall consult with  
115 the Department of Law Enforcement on programmatic guiding  
116 principles, practices, and resources, and shall certify as  
117 school guardians, without the power of arrest, school employees,  
118 as specified in s. 1006.12(3), or shall certify as school  
119 security guards those persons employed by a security agency who  
120 meet the criteria specified in s. 1006.12(4), and who:

121 a. Hold a valid license issued under s. 790.06 or are  
122 otherwise eligible to possess or carry a concealed firearm under  
123 chapter 790.

124 b. After satisfying the requirements of s. 1006.12(7),  
125 complete a 144-hour training program, consisting of 12 hours of  
126 training to improve the school guardian's knowledge and skills



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127 necessary to respond to and de-escalate incidents on school  
128 premises and 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and  
129 proficiency training conducted by Criminal Justice Standards and  
130 Training Commission-certified instructors, which must include:  
131 (I) Eighty hours of firearms instruction based on the  
132 Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission's Law  
133 Enforcement Academy training model, which must include at least  
134 10 percent but no more than 20 percent more rounds fired than  
135 associated with academy training. Program participants must  
136 achieve an 85 percent pass rate on the firearms training.  
137 (II) Sixteen hours of instruction in precision pistol.  
138 (III) Eight hours of discretionary shooting instruction  
139 using state-of-the-art simulator exercises.  
140 (IV) Sixteen hours of instruction in active shooter or  
141 assailant scenarios.  
142 (V) Eight hours of instruction in defensive tactics.  
143 (VI) Four hours of instruction in legal issues.  
144 c. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a  
145 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the  
146 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the  
147 evaluation to the sheriff's office. The Department of Law  
148 Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office with  
149 mental health and substance abuse data for compliance with this  
150 paragraph.  
151 d. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent  
152 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.  
153 112.0455 and the sheriff's office.  
154 e. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon  
155 inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual



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156 basis.

157

158 The sheriff who conducts the guardian training or waives the  
159 training requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.g.  
160 shall issue a school guardian certificate to persons who meet  
161 the requirements of this section to the satisfaction of the  
162 sheriff, and shall maintain documentation of weapon and  
163 equipment inspections, as well as the training, certification,  
164 inspection, and qualification records of each school guardian  
165 certified by the sheriff. A person who is certified under this  
166 paragraph may serve as a school guardian under s. 1006.12(3)  
167 only if he or she is appointed by the applicable school district  
168 superintendent, charter school principal, public postsecondary  
169 educational institution president, private school head of  
170 school, or child care facility owner. A sheriff who conducts the  
171 training for a school security guard or waives the training  
172 requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.g. and  
173 determines that the school security guard has met all the  
174 requirements of s. 1006.12(4) shall issue a school security  
175 guard certificate to persons who meet the requirements of this  
176 section to the satisfaction of the sheriff and shall maintain  
177 documentation of weapon and equipment inspections, training,  
178 certification, and qualification records for each school  
179 security guard certified by the sheriff.

180 3.a. Within 30 days after issuing a school guardian or  
181 school security guard certificate, the sheriff who issued the  
182 certificate must report to the Department of Law Enforcement the  
183 name, date of birth, and certification date of the school  
184 guardian or school security guard.



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185        b. By February 1 and September 1 of each school year, each  
186 school district, charter school, employing security agency,  
187 public postsecondary educational institution, private school,  
188 and child care facility must report in the manner prescribed to  
189 the Department of Law Enforcement the name, date of birth, and  
190 appointment date of each person appointed as a school guardian  
191 or employed as a school security guard. The school district,  
192 charter school, employing security agency, public postsecondary  
193 educational institution, private school, and child care facility  
194 must also report in the manner prescribed to the Department of  
195 Law Enforcement the date each school guardian or school security  
196 guard separates from his or her appointment as a school guardian  
197 or employment as a school security guard in a school.

198        c. The Department of Law Enforcement shall maintain a list  
199 of each person appointed as a school guardian or certified as a  
200 school security guard in the state. The list must include the  
201 name and certification date of each school guardian and school  
202 security guard and the date the person was appointed as a school  
203 guardian or certified as a school security guard, including the  
204 name of the school district, charter school, public  
205 postsecondary educational institution, private school, or child  
206 care facility in which the school guardian is appointed, or the  
207 employing security agency of a school security guard, any  
208 information provided pursuant to s. 1006.12(5), and, if  
209 applicable, the date such person separated from his or her  
210 appointment as a school guardian or the last date a school  
211 security guard served in a school as of the last reporting date.  
212 The Department of Law Enforcement shall remove from the list any  
213 person whose training has expired pursuant to sub-subparagraph



214 1.d.

215       d. Each sheriff shall report on a quarterly basis to the  
216 Department of Law Enforcement the schedule for upcoming school  
217 guardian trainings, to include guardian trainings for school  
218 security guards, including the dates of the training, the  
219 training locations, a contact person to register for the  
220 training, and the class capacity. If no trainings are scheduled,  
221 the sheriff is not required to report to the Department of Law  
222 Enforcement. The Department of Law Enforcement shall publish on  
223 its website a list of the upcoming school guardian trainings.  
224 The Department of Law Enforcement shall update such list  
225 quarterly.

226       e. A sheriff who fails to report the information required  
227 by this subparagraph may not receive reimbursement from the  
228 Department of Education for school guardian trainings. Upon the  
229 submission of the required information, a sheriff is deemed  
230 eligible for such funding and is authorized to continue to  
231 receive reimbursement for school guardian training.

232       f. A school district, charter school, public postsecondary  
233 educational institution, private school, child care facility, or  
234 employing security agency that fails to report the information  
235 required by this subparagraph is prohibited from operating a  
236 school guardian program or employing school security guards in  
237 the following school year unless the missing information is  
238 provided.

239       g. By March 1 and October 1 of each school year, the  
240 Department of Law Enforcement shall notify the Department of  
241 Education of any sheriff, school district, charter school,  
242 public postsecondary educational institution, private school, or



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243 child care facility that has not complied with the reporting  
244 requirements of this subparagraph.

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

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

253 790.115 Possessing or discharging weapons or firearms at a  
254 school-sponsored event or on school property prohibited;  
255 penalties; exceptions.—

256 (2)

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

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

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



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272 ~~775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.~~

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

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

279 921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity ranking  
280 chart.—

281 (3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

282 (f) LEVEL 6

283  
284

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.

289



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

290 499.0051 (2) 2nd Knowing forgery of transaction history, transaction information, or transaction statement.

291 499.0051 (3) 2nd Knowing purchase or receipt of prescription drug from unauthorized person.

292 499.0051 (4) 2nd Knowing sale or transfer of prescription drug to unauthorized person.

293 775.0875 (1) 3rd Taking firearm from law enforcement officer.

294 784.021 (1) (a) 3rd Aggravated assault; deadly weapon without intent to kill.

295 784.021 (1) (b) 3rd Aggravated assault; intent to commit felony.

296 784.041 3rd Felony battery; domestic battery by strangulation.



298	784.048 (3)	3rd	Aggravated stalking; credible threat.
299	784.048 (5)	3rd	Aggravated stalking of person under 16.
300	784.07 (2) (c)	2nd	Aggravated assault on law enforcement officer.
301	784.074 (1) (b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on sexually violent predators facility staff.
302	784.08 (2) (b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on a person 65 years of age or older.
303	784.081 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on specified official or employee.
304	784.082 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
305	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.



306	787.025 (2) (a)	3rd	Luring or enticing a child.
307	790.115 (2) (d)	2nd	Discharging firearm or weapon on school property <u>or within 1,000 feet of a school.</u>
308	790.161 (2)	2nd	Make, possess, or throw destructive device with intent to do bodily harm or damage property.
309	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.
310	790.19	2nd	Shooting or throwing deadly missiles into dwellings, vessels, or vehicles.
311	794.011 (8) (a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to participate in sexual activity by custodial adult.
312	794.05 (1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with specified minor.



313	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.
314	800.04 (6) (b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious conduct; offender 18 years of age or older.
315	806.031 (2)	2nd	Arson resulting in great bodily harm to firefighter or any other person.
316	810.02 (3) (c)	2nd	Burglary of occupied structure; unarmed; no assault or battery.
317	810.145 (8) (b)	2nd	Digital voyeurism; certain minor victims; 2nd or subsequent offense.
318	812.014 (2) (b) 1.	2nd	Property stolen \$20,000 or more, but less than \$100,000, grand theft in 2nd degree.
319	812.014 (2) (c) 5.	3rd	Grand theft; third degree; firearm.
320	812.014 (6)	2nd	Theft; property stolen \$3,000



or more; coordination of  
others.

321

812.015(9)(a) 2nd Retail theft; property stolen  
\$750 or more; second or  
subsequent conviction.

322

812.015(9)(b) 2nd Retail theft; aggregated  
property stolen within 120 days  
is \$3,000 or more; coordination  
of others.

323

812.015(9)(d) 2nd Retail theft; multiple thefts  
within specified period.

324

812.015(9)(e) 2nd Retail theft; committed with  
specified number of other  
persons and use of social media  
platform.

325

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

326

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

327

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



328			death.
329	817.505 (4) (b)	2nd	Patient brokering; 10 or more patients.
330	817.5695 (3) (b)	2nd	Exploitation of person 65 years of age or older, value \$10,000 or more, but less than \$50,000.
331	825.102 (1)	3rd	Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult.
332	825.102 (3) (c)	3rd	Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.
333	825.1025 (3)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation of an elderly person or disabled adult.
334	825.103 (3) (c)	3rd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at less than \$10,000.
335	827.03 (2) (c)	3rd	Abuse of a child.
336	827.03 (2) (d)	3rd	Neglect of a child.
	827.071 (5)	3rd	Possess, control, or intentionally view any



			photographic material, motion picture, etc., which includes child pornography.
337	828.126(3)	3rd	Sexual activities involving animals.
338	836.05	2nd	Threats; extortion.
339	836.10	2nd	Written or electronic threats to kill, do bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism.
340	843.12	3rd	Aids or assists person to escape.
341	847.011	3rd	Distributing, offering to distribute, or possessing with intent to distribute obscene materials depicting minors.
342	847.012	3rd	Knowingly using a minor in the production of materials harmful to minors.
343	847.0135(2)	3rd	Facilitates sexual conduct of or with a minor or the visual depiction of such conduct.



344	893.131	2nd	Distribution of controlled substances resulting in overdose or serious bodily injury.
345	914.23	2nd	Retaliation against a witness, victim, or informant, with bodily injury.
346	918.13(2) (b)	2nd	Tampering with or fabricating physical evidence relating to a capital felony.
347	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.
348	944.40	2nd	Escapes.
349	944.46	3rd	Harboring, concealing, aiding escaped prisoners.
350	944.47(1) (a) 5.	2nd	Introduction of contraband (firearm, weapon, or explosive) into correctional facility.



351	951.22(1)(i)	3rd	Firearm or weapon introduced into county detention facility.
352			
353			
354			
355	Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section		
356	943.082, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (c) is		
357	added to that subsection, to read:		
358	943.082 School Safety Awareness Program.—		
359	(4) (a) Law enforcement dispatch centers, school districts,		
360	schools, <u>postsecondary institutions</u> , and other entities		
361	identified by the department must be made aware of the mobile		
362	suspicious activity reporting tool.		
363	<u>(c) Each public postsecondary educational institution, as</u>		
364	<u>defined in s. 1000.04(3), shall promote the use of the mobile</u>		
365	<u>suspicious activity reporting tool by advertising it on the</u>		
366	<u>institution website, by installing it on all mobile devices</u>		
367	<u>issued by the institution, and by bookmarking the website on all</u>		
368	<u>computer devices maintained by the institution.</u>		
369	Section 5. Subsection (4) is added to section 1003.25,		
370	Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is		
371	republished, to read:		
372	1003.25 Procedures for maintenance and transfer of student		
373	records.—		
374	(2) The procedure for transferring and maintaining records		
375	of students who transfer from school to school is prescribed by		
376	rules of the State Board of Education. The transfer of records		
377	must occur within 5 school days. The records must include, if		



378 applicable:

379 (a) Verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior  
380 patterns, including any threat assessment report, all  
381 corresponding documentation, and any other information required  
382 by the Florida-specific behavioral threat assessment instrument  
383 pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) which contains the evaluation,  
384 intervention, and management of the threat assessment  
385 evaluations and intervention services.

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

390 (4) When the education records of a student contain the  
391 documents described in subsection (2) and the student enrolls in  
392 a Florida College System institution or state university, such  
393 records must be transferred to his or her institution or  
394 university of enrollment. The State Board of Education and the  
395 Board of Governors shall adopt rules and regulations,  
396 respectively, to establish the procedures for the transfer of a  
397 student's threat assessment report pursuant to this subsection.

398 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section  
399 1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student  
401 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall  
402 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the  
403 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper  
404 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the  
405 welfare of students, including:

406 (6) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—Each district



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407 school superintendent shall establish policies and procedures  
408 for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including the  
409 assessment of and intervention with individuals whose behavior  
410 poses a threat to the safety of the school community.

411 (a) *School safety specialist.*—Each district school  
412 superintendent shall designate a school safety specialist for  
413 the district. The school safety specialist must be a school  
414 administrator employed by the school district or a law  
415 enforcement officer employed by the sheriff's office located in  
416 the school district. Any school safety specialist designated  
417 from the sheriff's office must first be authorized and approved  
418 by the sheriff employing the law enforcement officer. Any school  
419 safety specialist designated from the sheriff's office remains  
420 the employee of the office for purposes of compensation,  
421 insurance, workers' compensation, and other benefits authorized  
422 by law for a law enforcement officer employed by the sheriff's  
423 office. The sheriff and the school superintendent may determine  
424 by agreement the reimbursement for such costs, or may share the  
425 costs, associated with employment of the law enforcement officer  
426 as a school safety specialist. The school safety specialist must  
427 earn a certificate of completion of the school safety specialist  
428 training provided by the Office of Safe Schools within 1 year  
429 after appointment and is responsible for the supervision and  
430 oversight for all school safety and security personnel,  
431 policies, and procedures in the school district. The school  
432 safety specialist, or his or her designee, shall:

433 1. In conjunction with the district school superintendent,  
434 annually review school district policies and procedures for  
435 compliance with state law and rules, including the district's



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436 timely and accurate submission of school environmental safety  
437 incident reports to the department pursuant to s. 1001.212(8).  
438 At least quarterly, the school safety specialist must report to  
439 the district school superintendent and the district school board  
440 any noncompliance by the school district with laws or rules  
441 regarding school safety.

442 2. Provide the necessary training and resources to students  
443 and school district staff in matters relating to youth mental  
444 health awareness and assistance; emergency procedures, including  
445 active shooter training; and school safety and security. Such  
446 training for classroom teachers and other members of  
447 instructional staff must explain the purpose, importance, and  
448 proper execution of school safety protocols and emergency  
449 procedures.

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

453 4. In collaboration with the appropriate public safety  
454 agencies, as that term is defined in s. 365.171, by October 1 of  
455 each year, conduct a school security risk assessment at each  
456 public school using the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool  
457 developed by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.  
458 1006.1493. Based on the assessment findings, the district's  
459 school safety specialist shall provide recommendations to the  
460 district school superintendent and the district school board  
461 which identify strategies and activities that the district  
462 school board should implement in order to address the findings  
463 and improve school safety and security. Each district school  
464 board must receive such findings and the school safety



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465 specialist's recommendations at a publicly noticed district  
466 school board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to  
467 hear the district school board members discuss and take action  
468 on the findings and recommendations. Each school safety  
469 specialist, through the district school superintendent, shall  
470 report such findings and school board action to the Office of  
471 Safe Schools within 30 days after the district school board  
472 meeting.

473 5. Conduct annual unannounced inspections, using the form  
474 adopted by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.  
475 1001.212(13), of all public schools, including charter schools,  
476 while school is in session and investigate reports of  
477 noncompliance with school safety requirements.

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

481 Section 7. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (3) of  
482 section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, and paragraph (a) of that  
483 subsection, paragraph (a) of subsection (4), and subsection (7)  
484 of that section are reenacted, to read:

485 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For the  
486 protection and safety of school personnel, property, students,  
487 and visitors, each district school board and school district  
488 superintendent shall partner with law enforcement agencies or  
489 security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school  
490 officers at each school facility within the district, including  
491 charter schools. A district school board must collaborate with  
492 charter school governing boards to facilitate charter school  
493 access to all safe-school officer options available under this



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494 section. The school district may implement any combination of  
495 the options in subsections (1)-(4) to best meet the needs of the  
496 school district and charter schools.

497 (3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—

498 (a) At the school district's or the charter school  
499 governing board's discretion, as applicable, pursuant to s.  
500 30.15, a school district or charter school governing board may  
501 participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach  
502 Scott Beigel Guardian Program to meet the requirement of  
503 establishing a safe-school officer. The following individuals  
504 may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned  
505 activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory  
506 completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and  
507 certification by a sheriff:

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

512 2. An employee of a school district or a charter school who  
513 is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school  
514 guardian.

515 (d) A person who serves as a school guardian may not wear a  
516 uniform that identifies him or her as a school guardian.

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



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523       (a) An individual who serves as a school security guard,  
524 for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section,  
525 must:

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

528       2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a  
529 psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the  
530 Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the  
531 evaluation to the sheriff's office and school district, charter  
532 school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
533 applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to  
534 provide the sheriff's office, school district, charter school  
535 governing board, or employing security agency with mental health  
536 and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

537       3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent  
538 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.  
539 112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, charter  
540 school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
541 applicable.

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

549       5. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon  
550 inspection, and firearm qualification conducted by a sheriff  
551 pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.e. on at least an annual basis and



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552 provide documentation to the sheriff's office, school district,  
553 charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as  
554 applicable.

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

560  
561 If a district school board, through its adopted policies,  
562 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any  
563 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school  
564 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety  
565 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the  
566 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource  
567 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school  
568 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.  
569 1011.62(12) and shall be retained by the school district.

570 Section 8. Section 1006.601, Florida Statutes, is created  
571 to read:

572 1006.601 Student safety.—

573 (1) 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 (2) 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).



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581       (b) An employee or faculty member of a public postsecondary  
582 educational institution may serve as a school guardian, in  
583 support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s.  
584 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the requirements under  
585 s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a sheriff.

586       (3) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—

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

589       1. Adopt an active assailant response plan, including  
590 methods for issuing campus-wide alerts, and annually certify  
591 that all faculty, staff, and students have completed active  
592 assailant preparedness training. The plan must clearly identify  
593 who may issue an emergency alert.

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

600       (b) Student mental health.—Each public postsecondary  
601 educational institution shall:

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

606       2. Post on its website and in conspicuous locations at each  
607 institution a mental health awareness and suicide prevention  
608 sign that identifies ways a person can access help and services.  
609 Physical signs must be at least 11 inches by 15 inches in size



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610 and must be printed in an easily legible font and in at least  
611 32-point type.

612 3. Establish threat management teams whose duties include  
613 the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention  
614 with students whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of  
615 the institution, institution staff, or students. The threat  
616 management team must use the statewide behavioral threat  
617 management operational process and Florida-specific behavioral  
618 threat assessment instrument developed by the Office of Safe  
619 Schools pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) or another comparable tool  
620 deemed appropriate for postsecondary institutions by the State  
621 Board of Education and the Board of Governors.

622

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

630 (c) Security risk assessment.—Each public postsecondary  
631 educational institution shall collaborate with appropriate  
632 public safety agencies as defined in s. 365.171(3) (d), and may  
633 collaborate with a private sector security consulting firm, to  
634 annually conduct a security risk assessment at each campus using  
635 the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool developed by the Office  
636 of Safe Schools pursuant to s. 1006.1493 or another comparable  
637 tool deemed appropriate for postsecondary educational  
638 institutions by the State Board of Education and the Board of



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639 Governors. Each public postsecondary educational institution may  
640 contract with a private sector security consulting firm that  
641 specializes in the facilitation of security risk assessments and  
642 has experience in conducting security risk assessments of public  
643 facilities to develop, update, and implement a risk assessment  
644 tool. Subject to an appropriation, the institution may apply for  
645 grant funds for security improvements to its campus based on  
646 findings in the security risk assessment and other services  
647 deemed appropriate.

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

651 Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
652 made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a  
653 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (19) of section  
654 402.305, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

655 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

656 (19) SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS.—

657 (a) A child care facility may partner with a law  
658 enforcement agency or a security agency to establish or assign  
659 one or more safe-school officers established in s. 1006.12(1)–  
660 (4). The child care facility is responsible for the full cost of  
661 implementing any such option, which includes all training costs  
662 under the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel  
663 Guardian Program under s. 30.15(1)(k).

664 Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
665 made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a  
666 reference thereto, section 843.08, Florida Statutes, is  
667 reenacted to read:



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668        843.08 False personation.—A person who falsely assumes or  
669 pretends to be a firefighter, a sheriff, an officer of the  
670 Florida Highway Patrol, an officer of the Fish and Wildlife  
671 Conservation Commission, an officer of the Department of  
672 Environmental Protection, an officer of the Department of  
673 Financial Services, any personnel or representative of the  
674 Division of Criminal Investigations, an officer of the  
675 Department of Corrections, a correctional probation officer, a  
676 deputy sheriff, a state attorney or an assistant state attorney,  
677 a statewide prosecutor or an assistant statewide prosecutor, a  
678 state attorney investigator, a coroner, a police officer, a  
679 lottery special agent or lottery investigator, a beverage  
680 enforcement agent, a school guardian as described in s.  
681 30.15(1)(k), a security officer licensed under chapter 493, any  
682 member of the Florida Commission on Offender Review or any  
683 administrative aide or supervisor employed by the commission,  
684 any personnel or representative of the Department of Law  
685 Enforcement, or a federal law enforcement officer as defined in  
686 s. 901.1505, and takes upon himself or herself to act as such,  
687 or to require any other person to aid or assist him or her in a  
688 matter pertaining to the duty of any such officer, commits a  
689 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.  
690 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. However, a person who  
691 falsely personates any such officer during the course of the  
692 commission of a felony commits a felony of the second degree,  
693 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.  
694 If the commission of the felony results in the death or personal  
695 injury of another human being, the person commits a felony of  
696 the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.



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697 775.083, or s. 775.084. In determining whether a defendant has  
698 violated this section, the court or jury may consider any  
699 relevant evidence, including, but not limited to, whether the  
700 defendant used lights in violation of s. 316.2397 or s. 843.081.

701 Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
702 made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a  
703 reference thereto, subsection (16) of section 943.03, Florida  
704 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

705 943.03 Department of Law Enforcement.—

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

715 Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendments  
716 made by this act to sections 943.082 and 1006.07, Florida  
717 Statutes, in references thereto, subsections (1), (4), and (10)  
718 of section 1001.212, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:

719 1001.212 Office of Safe Schools.—There is created in the  
720 Department of Education the Office of Safe Schools. The office  
721 is fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education. The  
722 office shall serve as a central repository for best practices,  
723 training standards, and compliance oversight in all matters  
724 regarding school safety and security, including prevention  
725 efforts, intervention efforts, and emergency preparedness



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726 planning. The office shall:

727 (1) Establish and update as necessary a school security  
728 risk assessment tool for use by school districts pursuant to s.  
729 1006.07(6). The office shall make the security risk assessment  
730 tool available for use by charter schools. The office shall  
731 provide annual training to appropriate school district and  
732 charter school personnel on the proper assessment of physical  
733 site security and completion of the school security risk  
734 assessment tool.

735 (4) Develop and implement a School Safety Specialist  
736 Training Program for school safety specialists appointed  
737 pursuant to s. 1006.07(6). The office shall develop the training  
738 program which shall be based on national and state best  
739 practices on school safety and security and must include active  
740 shooter training. The office shall develop training modules in  
741 traditional or online formats. A school safety specialist  
742 certificate of completion shall be awarded to a school safety  
743 specialist who satisfactorily completes the training required by  
744 rules of the office.

745 (10) Disseminate, in consultation with the Department of  
746 Law Enforcement, to participating schools awareness and  
747 education materials on the proper use of the School Safety  
748 Awareness Program developed pursuant to s. 943.082, including  
749 the consequences of knowingly submitting false information.

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

752 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====  
753 And the title is amended as follows:



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755       Delete everything before the enacting clause  
756 and insert:  
757                   A bill to be entitled  
758                   An act relating to school safety; amending s. 30.15,  
759                   F.S.; requiring sheriffs to assist public  
760                   postsecondary educational institutions in implementing  
761                   guardian programs under certain provisions;  
762                   authorizing public postsecondary educational  
763                   institutions to participate in the school guardian  
764                   program; requiring public postsecondary educational  
765                   institutions to provide a specified notice to the  
766                   sheriff; amending s. 790.115, F.S.; creating the  
767                   offense of discharging a weapon or firearm within  
768                   1,000 feet of a school; providing an exception;  
769                   providing that a person arrested for certain offenses  
770                   must be held in custody until brought before the court  
771                   for admittance to bail; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.;  
772                   ranking an offense created by the act on the offense  
773                   severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment  
774                   Code; amending s. 943.082, F.S.; requiring that  
775                   postsecondary institutions be made aware of the mobile  
776                   suspicious activity reporting tool in a specified  
777                   manner; requiring public postsecondary educational  
778                   institutions to promote the use of such tool; amending  
779                   s. 1003.25, F.S.; requiring specified educational  
780                   records for certain students to be transferred to a  
781                   Florida College System institution or state university  
782                   under certain circumstances; requiring the State Board  
783                   of Education and the Board of Governors to adopt rules



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784 and regulations, respectively; amending s. 1006.07,  
785 F.S.; requiring certain trainings to include specified  
786 information relating to school safety; reenacting and  
787 amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; prohibiting a school  
788 guardian from wearing an identifying uniform; creating  
789 s. 1006.601, F.S.; defining the term "public  
790 postsecondary educational institution"; authorizing  
791 such institutions to participate in certain programs;  
792 authorizing such institutions to appoint certified  
793 school guardians; authorizing specified persons to  
794 serve as school guardians; requiring such institutions  
795 to adopt specified emergency response plans; requiring  
796 such institutions to provide specified training, post  
797 specified information, and adopt threat management  
798 processes; requiring public postsecondary educational  
799 institutions to collaborate with certain public safety  
800 agencies, and authorizing such institutions to  
801 collaborate with private sector security consulting  
802 firms, to annually conduct a security risk assessment  
803 using a specified assessment tool; authorizing public  
804 postsecondary educational institutions to contract  
805 with a private sector security consulting firm for a  
806 specified purpose; authorizing a public postsecondary  
807 educational institution to apply for grant funds for  
808 security improvements, subject to appropriation;  
809 authorizing the State Board of Education and the Board  
810 of Governors to adopt rules and regulations,  
811 respectively; reenacting ss. 402.305(19)(a), 843.08,  
812 943.03(16), and 1001.212(1), (4), and (10), F.S.,



813        relating to licensing standards and child care  
814        facilities; false personation; Department of Law  
815        Enforcement; and Office of Safe Schools, respectively;  
816        providing effective dates.