

By Senator Gaetz

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school safety; amending s. 30.15, F.S.; authorizing public postsecondary educational institutions to participate in the school guardian program; amending s. 790.06, F.S.; authorizing certain college or university employees, faculty members, and students to openly carry a handgun or carry a concealed weapon or concealed firearm into a college or university facility; amending s. 790.115, F.S.; creating the offense of discharging a weapon or firearm within 1,000 feet of a school; providing an exception; providing that a person arrested for certain offenses must be held in custody until brought before the court for admittance to bail; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.; ranking an offense created by the act on the offense severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment Code; amending s. 943.082, F.S.; requiring that public postsecondary educational institutions be made aware of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool in a specified manner; requiring public postsecondary educational institutions to use specified methods to promote the use of the tool; amending s. 1003.25, F.S.; requiring that specified educational records for certain students be transferred to a Florida College System institution or state university under certain circumstances; requiring the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors to adopt rules and regulations, respectively; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; requiring

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certain trainings to include specified information relating to school safety; creating s. 1006.601, F.S.; defining the term "public postsecondary educational institution"; authorizing such institutions to participate in a specified program; authorizing such institutions to appoint certified school guardians; requiring such institutions to adopt specified emergency response plans; requiring such institutions to provide specified training, post specified information, and adopt threat management processes; authorizing the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors to adopt rules and regulations, respectively; reenacting ss. 402.305(19)(a), 790.013(2), 843.08, 943.03(16), 1001.212(1), (4), and (10), and 1006.12(3)(a), (4)(a), and (7), F.S., relating to licensing standards for child care facilities, carrying of concealed weapons or concealed firearms without a license, false personation, Department of Law Enforcement, Office of Safe Schools, and safe-school officers at each public school, respectively, to incorporate the amendments made by this act; providing effective dates.

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

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

30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.—

(1) Sheriffs, in their respective counties, in person or by

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59 deputy, shall:

60 (k) Assist district school boards and charter school
61 governing boards in complying with, or public postsecondary
62 educational institutions, as described in s. 1000.04(3), and
63 private schools or child care facilities, as defined in s.
64 402.302, in exercising options in, s. 1006.12. A sheriff shall,
65 at a minimum, provide access to a Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis,
66 and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to aid in the prevention
67 or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises,
68 as required under this paragraph. Persons certified as school
69 guardians pursuant to this paragraph have no authority to act in
70 any law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to
71 prevent or abate an active assailant incident.

72 1.a. If a local school board has voted by a majority to
73 implement a guardian program or has contracted for the use of
74 school security guards to satisfy the requirements of s.
75 1006.12, the sheriff in that county must establish a guardian
76 program to provide training for school guardians or school
77 security guards, pursuant to subparagraph 2., to school
78 district, charter school, public postsecondary educational
79 institution, private school, child care facility, or security
80 agency employees, either directly or through a contract with
81 another sheriff's office that has established a guardian
82 program. The security agency employing a school security guard
83 is responsible for all training and screening-related costs for
84 a school security guard, but such charges may not exceed the
85 actual cost incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

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

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88 voted, or has declined, to implement a guardian program may
89 request the sheriff in the county to establish a guardian
90 program for the purpose of training the public postsecondary
91 educational institution or charter school employees or school
92 security guards consistent with the requirements of subparagraph
93 2. If the county sheriff denies the request, the public
94 postsecondary educational institution or charter school
95 governing board may contract with a sheriff that has established
96 a guardian program to provide such training. The public
97 postsecondary educational institution or charter school
98 governing board must notify the superintendent and the sheriff
99 in the public postsecondary educational institution's or charter
100 school's county of the contract prior to its execution. The
101 security agency employing a school security guard is responsible
102 for all training and screening-related costs for a school
103 security guard, but such charges may not exceed the actual cost
104 incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

105 c. A private school or child care facility in a school
106 district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a
107 guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of
108 the private school or child care facility establish a guardian
109 program for the purpose of training private school employees,
110 child care facility employees, or school security guards. If the
111 county sheriff denies the request, the private school or child
112 care facility may contract with a sheriff from another county
113 who has established a guardian program under subparagraph 2. to
114 provide such training. The private school or child care facility
115 must notify the sheriff in the private school's or child care
116 facility's county of the contract with a sheriff from another

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117 county before its execution. The private school, child care
118 facility, or security agency is responsible for all training and
119 screening-related costs for a school guardian program. The
120 sheriff providing such training must ensure that any moneys paid
121 by a private school, child care facility, or security agency are
122 not commingled with any funds provided by the state to the
123 sheriff as reimbursement for screening-related and training-
124 related costs of any school district or charter school employee.

125 d. The training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b.
126 is a standardized statewide curriculum, and each sheriff
127 providing such training shall adhere to the course of
128 instruction specified in that sub-subparagraph. This
129 subparagraph does not prohibit a sheriff from providing
130 additional training. A school guardian or school security guard
131 who has completed the training program required in sub-
132 subparagraph 2.b. may not be required to attend another
133 sheriff's training program pursuant to that sub-subparagraph
134 unless there has been at least a 1-year break in his or her
135 appointment as a guardian or employment by a security agency as
136 a school security guard in a school.

137 e. The sheriff conducting the training pursuant to
138 subparagraph 2. for school district, ~~and~~ and charter school, or
139 public postsecondary educational institution employees will be
140 reimbursed for screening-related and training-related costs and
141 for providing a one-time stipend of \$500 to each school guardian
142 who participates in the school guardian program.

143 f. The sheriff may waive the training and screening-related
144 costs for a private school or child care facility for a school
145 guardian program. Funds provided pursuant to sub-subparagraph e.

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may not be used to subsidize any costs that have been waived by the sheriff. The sheriff may not waive the training and screening-related costs required to be paid by a security agency for initial training or ongoing training of a school security guard.

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

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

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

b. After satisfying the requirements of s. 1006.12(7), complete a 144-hour training program, consisting of 12 hours of training to improve the school guardian's knowledge and skills necessary to respond to and de-escalate incidents on school

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premises and 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and proficiency training conducted by Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission-certified instructors, which must include:

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

(II) Sixteen hours of instruction in precision pistol.

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

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

(V) Eight hours of instruction in defensive tactics.

(VI) Four hours of instruction in legal issues.

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

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

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

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

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

b. By February 1 and September 1 of each school year, each

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

245 c. The Department of Law Enforcement shall maintain a list
246 of each person appointed as a school guardian or certified as a
247 school security guard in the state. The list must include the
248 name and certification date of each school guardian and school
249 security guard and the date the person was appointed as a school
250 guardian or certified as a school security guard, including the
251 name of the school district, charter school, public
252 postsecondary educational institution, private school, or child
253 care facility in which the school guardian is appointed, or the
254 employing security agency of a school security guard, any
255 information provided pursuant to s. 1006.12(5), and, if
256 applicable, the date such person separated from his or her
257 appointment as a school guardian or the last date a school
258 security guard served in a school as of the last reporting date.
259 The Department of Law Enforcement shall remove from the list any
260 person whose training has expired pursuant to sub-subparagraph
261 1.d.

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

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

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

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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. Paragraph (a) of subsection (12) of section 790.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

790.06 License to carry concealed weapon or concealed firearm.—

(12) (a) A license issued under this section does not authorize any person to openly carry a handgun or carry a concealed weapon or concealed firearm into:

1. Any place of nuisance as defined in s. 823.05;
2. Any police, sheriff, or highway patrol station;
3. Any detention facility, prison, or jail;
4. Any courthouse;
5. Any courtroom, except that nothing in this section precludes a judge from carrying a concealed weapon or concealed firearm or determining who will carry a concealed weapon or concealed firearm in his or her courtroom;
6. Any polling place;
7. Any meeting of the governing body of a county, public school district, municipality, or special district;
8. Any meeting of the Legislature or a committee thereof;
9. Any school, college, or professional athletic event not related to firearms;
10. Any elementary or secondary school facility or administration building;

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11. Any career center;

12. Any portion of an establishment licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, which portion of the establishment is primarily devoted to such purpose;

13. Any college or university facility unless the licensee is:

a. A registered student, employee, or faculty member of such college or university and the weapon is a stun gun or nonlethal electric weapon or device designed solely for defensive purposes and the weapon does not fire a dart or projectile;

b. An employee or faculty member of such college or university who is not a registered student of such college or university; or

c. A registered student of such college or university who is an employee or faculty member of the college or university. This sub-subparagraph applies to a registered student at times during which he or she is performing the duties of his or her position as an employee or faculty member of the college or university;

14. The inside of the passenger terminal and sterile area of any airport, provided that no person shall be prohibited from carrying any legal firearm into the terminal, which firearm is encased for shipment for purposes of checking such firearm as baggage to be lawfully transported on any aircraft; or

15. Any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law.

Section 3. Effective October 1, 2026, paragraph (d) of

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subsection (2) of section 790.115, Florida Statutes, is amended and a new 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 4. 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

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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.

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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.

775.0875(1)

3rd

Taking firearm from law
enforcement officer.

784.021(1)(a)

3rd

Aggravated assault; deadly
weapon without intent to kill.

784.021(1)(b)

3rd

Aggravated assault; intent to
commit felony.

784.041

3rd

Felony battery; domestic
battery by strangulation.

784.048(3)

3rd

Aggravated stalking; credible
threat.

784.048(5)

3rd

Aggravated stalking of person
under 16.

784.07(2)(c)

2nd

Aggravated assault on law
enforcement officer.

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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.

790.161 (2)

2nd

Make, possess, or throw
destructive device with intent

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to do bodily harm or damage
property.

406

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.

407

790.19

2nd

Shooting or throwing deadly
missiles into dwellings,
vessels, or vehicles.

408

794.011(8)(a)

3rd

Solicitation of minor to
participate in sexual activity
by custodial adult.

409

794.05(1)

2nd

Unlawful sexual activity with
specified minor.

410

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.

411

800.04(6)(b)

2nd

Lewd or lascivious conduct;
offender 18 years of age or
older.

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412

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

413

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

414

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

415

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

416

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

417

812.014(6) 2nd Theft; property stolen \$3,000 or more; coordination of others.

418

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

419

812.015(9)(b) 2nd Retail theft; aggregated property stolen within 120 days

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is \$3,000 or more; coordination
of others.

420

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

421

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

422

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

423

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

424

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

425

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

426

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

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825.102 (1)

3rd

Abuse of an elderly person or
disabled adult.

428

825.102 (3) (c)

3rd

Neglect of an elderly person or
disabled adult.

429

825.1025 (3)

3rd

Lewd or lascivious molestation
of an elderly person or
disabled adult.

430

825.103 (3) (c)

3rd

Exploiting an elderly person or
disabled adult and property is
valued at less than \$10,000.

431

827.03 (2) (c)

3rd

Abuse of a child.

432

827.03 (2) (d)

3rd

Neglect of a child.

433

827.071 (5)

3rd

Possess, control, or
intentionally view any
photographic material, motion
picture, etc., which includes
child pornography.

434

828.126 (3)

3rd

Sexual activities involving
animals.

435

836.05

2nd

Threats; extortion.

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437	836.10	2nd	Written or electronic threats to kill, do bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism.
438	843.12	3rd	Aids or assists person to escape.
439	847.011	3rd	Distributing, offering to distribute, or possessing with intent to distribute obscene materials depicting minors.
440	847.012	3rd	Knowingly using a minor in the production of materials harmful to minors.
441	847.0135(2)	3rd	Facilitates sexual conduct of or with a minor or the visual depiction of such conduct.
442	893.131	2nd	Distribution of controlled substances resulting in overdose or serious bodily injury.
	914.23	2nd	Retaliation against a witness, victim, or informant, with bodily injury.

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

943.082 School Safety Awareness Program.—

(4) (a) Law enforcement dispatch centers, school districts,

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schools, public postsecondary educational institutions, and other entities identified by the department must be made aware of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool.

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

Section 6. Subsection (4) is added to section 1003.25, Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is republished, to read:

1003.25 Procedures for maintenance and transfer of student records.—

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

(a) Verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

537 2. Provide the necessary training and resources to students
538 and school district staff in matters relating to youth mental
539 health awareness and assistance; emergency procedures, including
540 active shooter training; and school safety and security. Such
541 training for classroom teachers and other instructional staff

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542 must explain the purpose, importance, and proper execution of
543 school safety protocols and emergency procedures.

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

547 4. In collaboration with the appropriate public safety
548 agencies, as that term is defined in s. 365.171, by October 1 of
549 each year, conduct a school security risk assessment at each
550 public school using the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool
551 developed by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.

552 1006.1493. Based on the assessment findings, the district's
553 school safety specialist shall provide recommendations to the
554 district school superintendent and the district school board
555 which identify strategies and activities that the district
556 school board should implement in order to address the findings
557 and improve school safety and security. Each district school
558 board must receive such findings and the school safety
559 specialist's recommendations at a publicly noticed district
560 school board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to
561 hear the district school board members discuss and take action
562 on the findings and recommendations. Each school safety
563 specialist, through the district school superintendent, shall
564 report such findings and school board action to the Office of
565 Safe Schools within 30 days after the district school board
566 meeting.

567 5. Conduct annual unannounced inspections, using the form
568 adopted by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.
569 1001.212(13), of all public schools, including charter schools,
570 while school is in session and investigate reports of

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noncompliance with school safety requirements.

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

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

1006.601 Student safety.—

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

(2) SCHOOL GUARDIANS.—Public postsecondary educational institutions are authorized to participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program and may appoint certified school guardians pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k).

(3) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—

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

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

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

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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
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 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

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records pursuant to s. 1003.25(4).

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

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

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

402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

(19) SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS.—

(a) A child care facility may partner with a law 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 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment

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made by this act to section 790.06, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 790.013, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

790.013 Carrying of concealed weapons or concealed firearms without a license.—A person who carries a concealed weapon or concealed firearm without a license as authorized under s. 790.01(1)(b):

(2) Is subject to s. 790.06(12) in the same manner as a person who is licensed to carry a concealed weapon or concealed firearm.

Section 11. 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

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

943.03 Department of Law Enforcement.—

(16) Upon request, the department shall consult with
sheriffs to provide input regarding programmatic guiding
principles, practices, and resources in order to assist in the
development and implementation of the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron
Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program established
pursuant to s. 30.15. Such input and guidance may include, but

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need not be limited to, standards, curriculum, instructional strategies, evaluation, certification, records retention, equipment, and other resource needs.

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

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

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

(4) Develop and implement a School Safety Specialist Training Program for school safety specialists appointed pursuant to s. 1006.07(6). The office shall develop the training program which shall be based on national and state best practices on school safety and security and must include active shooter training. The office shall develop training modules in

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745 traditional or online formats. A school safety specialist
746 certificate of completion shall be awarded to a school safety
747 specialist who satisfactorily completes the training required by
748 rules of the office.

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

754 Section 14. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
755 made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a
756 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (3), paragraph
757 (a) of subsection (4), and subsection (7) of section 1006.12,
758 Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:

759 1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For the
760 protection and safety of school personnel, property, students,
761 and visitors, each district school board and school district
762 superintendent shall partner with law enforcement agencies or
763 security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school
764 officers at each school facility within the district, including
765 charter schools. A district school board must collaborate with
766 charter school governing boards to facilitate charter school
767 access to all safe-school officer options available under this
768 section. The school district may implement any combination of
769 the options in subsections (1)-(4) to best meet the needs of the
770 school district and charter schools.

771 (3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—

772 (a) At the school district's or the charter school
773 governing board's discretion, as applicable, pursuant to s.

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30.15, a school district or charter school governing board may participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to meet the requirement of establishing a safe-school officer. The following individuals may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a sheriff:

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

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

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

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

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

2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the

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803 evaluation to the sheriff's office and school district, charter
804 school governing board, or employing security agency, as
805 applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to
806 provide the sheriff's office, school district, charter school
807 governing board, or employing security agency with mental health
808 and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

809 3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent
810 random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s.
811 112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, charter
812 school governing board, or employing security agency, as
813 applicable.

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

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

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

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

Section 15. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.