

FAILED



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AMENDMENT
Senate Bill 257

AMENDMENT NO. **A13**
(to be filled in by
Principal Clerk)

S257-ANHa-4 [v.6]

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Amends Title [NO]
Second Edition

Date _____, 2025

Senator Bradley

moves to amend the bill on page 110, lines 11-12, by inserting between the lines the following new sections to read:

"REQUIRE PARENTAL NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL THREATS AND SAFETY PLANS

SECTION 7.41. Article 7B of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Part to read:

"Part 7. School Safety Transparency.

"§ 115C-77.1. Mandatory notification of threats.

(a) Required Notices. – The parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled in a public school shall be immediately notified of any credible threat that meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Targets the parent or guardian's child, including threats of violence and bullying.
- (2) Targets the student body, faculty, or school campus, including planned attacks and bomb threats.
- (3) Involves a student bringing a weapon to school or a student causing other security risks.
- (4) Requires law enforcement intervention, including a lockdown or evacuation.

(b) Notice Policy. – The governing body of a public school unit shall adopt a policy for the provision of notices required under this section. At a minimum, the policy shall do the following:

- (1) Identify the school employees or administrators responsible for providing the notices required by this section.
- (2) Define high-level emergency.

(c) Means of Notice. – Notifications required under this section shall be made by text message, email, phone call, or by posting an update on the school's website. Each notification must be made through at least two different means. For high-level emergencies, one of the two notices must be by phone call.

(d) Notice Contents. – Notifications made pursuant to this section shall include details of the threat, including actions taken and school response. Updates shall be provided as new information becomes available.



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1 (e) Notice Timing. – A school must provide initial notification within one hour of law
2 enforcement confirmation of a credible threat, unless threat notification interferes with an active
3 law enforcement investigation in which case notice shall occur one hour after arrest or resolution
4 of investigation as determined by law enforcement.

5 **"§ 115C-77.2. Failure to notify.**

6 (a) Filing Complaint. – The parent of a student who is enrolled in a public school who
7 alleges that the student's school failed to notify the parent of a threat as required by
8 G.S. 115C-77.1 may file a complaint with the Department of Public Instruction.

9 (b) Investigation. – Upon receiving a complaint that a school has violated
10 G.S. 115C-77.1, the Department shall forward the complaint to the Center for Safer Schools, and
11 the Center for Safer Schools shall conduct an investigation to determine whether a school abided
12 by the school's notification policy.

13 (c) Report. – No later than 60 days from the date the Center for Safer Schools receives
14 the complaint, the Center shall report the findings of the investigation to the Superintendent of
15 Public Instruction and the State Board of Education. The State Board shall schedule consideration
16 of the report no later than the next regular meeting occurring more than five days after submission
17 of the report.

18 (d) State Board Findings; Penalty. – If the State Board of Education, by a majority vote,
19 finds that a school has not complied with the notice requirements of G.S. 115C-77.1, the State
20 Board shall instruct the Department to reduce the public school unit's central office
21 administration allotment by up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and transfer the funds to the
22 School Security Fund.

23 (e) Repeated Failure to Notify. – If the State Board of Education finds that a school has
24 failed to comply with the notice requirements of G.S. 115C-77.1 for more than one threat, then
25 the State Board may do any of the following:

26 (1) Issue a corrective action plan for the public school unit.

27 (2) Require additional mandatory training for public school unit administrators.

28 (3) Withhold additional administrative funds from the central office
29 administration allotment.

30 (f) Administrative Penalties for Administrators. – If during the review of an investigation
31 of an alleged violation of G.S. 115C-77.1 the State Board of Education finds that specific school
32 administrators were responsible for the violation, the State Board may do any of the following
33 for those administrators specifically:

34 (1) Issue a written reprimand and performance review.

35 (2) Require the administrator to attend additional school safety training.

36 (3) If the administrator has been identified as being involved in a violation of
37 G.S. 115C-77.1 for more than one threat, order the public school unit to end
38 the employment of the administrator.

39 (g) A school administrator that knowingly conceals a credible threat from the parent of a
40 student that attends the school where the threat occurred may be charged with a Class A1
41 misdemeanor for endangering students if the threat results in injury.

42 (h) If the State Board takes action under this section, the State Board of Education shall
43 report the action to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee within 60 days of the

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1 action. The General Assembly shall consider, no later than the next session of the General
2 Assembly, the future governance of the identified public school unit.

3 **"§ 115C-77.3. Annual school safety report and policies.**

4 (a) The governing body of a public school unit shall ensure that each school within the
5 school unit publishes an annual school safety report on its website and shall notify parents of the
6 availability of the report.

7 (b) The annual school safety report shall include at least the following:

8 (1) The number of threats, lockdowns, and evacuations in the prior year.

9 (2) Status of school security enhancements and equipment, including security
10 cameras and Student Resource Officers.

11 (3) Summary of school safety policies and response procedures.

12 (c) The governing body of a public school unit shall ensure that each school within the
13 school unit publishes its school safety policies on its website and shall notify parents of the
14 availability of the policies.

15 (d) The website shall include the following school safety policies:

16 (1) Emergency response plans, except a school may exclude sensitive security
17 details.

18 (2) Student safety policies, including procedures for handling threats.

19 (3) Available mental health and counseling resources for at-risk students.

20 **"§ 115C-77.4. Reporting of annual school safety reports.**

21 (a) The governing body of each public school unit shall provide a copy of the annual
22 school safety report required under G.S. 115C-77.3 to the Department of Public Instruction no
23 later than December 1 of each year.

24 (b) The Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
25 no later than February 1 of each year, including a summary of the reports received pursuant to
26 this section and on the rate of compliance with the notification requirements in G.S. 115C-77.1."

27
28 **REINSTATE TASK FORCE FOR SAFER SCHOOLS**

29 **SECTION 7.42.(a)** G.S. 115C-105.55 is reenacted as it existed immediately prior to
30 its repeal.

31 **SECTION 7.42.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.56 is reenacted as it existed immediately prior to
32 its repeal.

33 **SECTION 7.42.(c)** G.S. 115C-105.56, as reenacted by this section, reads as
34 rewritten:

35 **"§ 115C-105.56. Task Force for Safer Schools; powers and duties.**

36 The Task Force shall have all of the following duties:

37 (1) To serve as an advisory board to the Center for Safer Schools.

38 (2) To provide guidance and recommendations to the Governor, Superintendent
39 of Public Instruction, and the General Assembly to improve statewide policy
40 to enhance statewide and local capacities to create safer schools.

41 (3) To encourage interagency collaboration among State and local government
42 agencies to achieve effective policies and streamline efforts to create safer
43 schools.

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(4) To Assist the Center for Safer Schools in collecting and disseminating information on recommended best practices and community needs related to creating safer schools in North Carolina.

(5) Other duties as assigned by the State Board of Education.

(6) To collect and analyze data to monitor public school unit compliance with G.S. 115C-77.1."

SECTION 7.42.(d) The members of the Task Force for Safer Schools at the time of its dissolution shall be offered to return to the Task Force to serve an amount of time equivalent to the amount of time that remained on that member's term at the time the Task Force was dissolved. If a member chooses not to return to the Task Force, the resultant vacancy shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

ESTABLISH SCHOOL SECURITY FUND

SECTION 7.43.(a) Part 3 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 115C-105.70. School Safety Fund.

(a) There is established under the control and direction of the State Board of Education the School Safety Fund. This fund shall be a nonreverting special revenue fund consisting of any monies appropriated to it by the General Assembly and any monies credited to it under G.S. 115C-77.2 for failure to comply with G.S. 115C-77.1.

(b) Funds in the School Safety Fund shall be allocated to local school administrative units on the basis of average daily membership.

(c) Public school units may use funds received pursuant to this section for any of the following purposes:

(1) For the public school unit to provide or contract to provide services for students in crisis, including any of the following:

a. Crisis respite services for parents or guardians of an individual student to prevent more intensive or costly levels of care.

b. Training and expanded services for therapeutic foster care families and licensed child placement agencies that provide services to students who (i) need support to manage their health, welfare, and safety and (ii) have any of the following:

1. Cognitive or behavioral problems.

2. Developmental delays.

3. Aggressive behavior.

c. Evidence-based therapy services aligned with targeted training for students and their parents or guardians, including any of the following:

1. Parent-child interaction therapy.

2. Trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy.

3. Dialectical behavior therapy.

4. Child-parent psychotherapy.

d. Any other crisis service, including peer-to-peer mentoring, that is likely to increase school safety.

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(2) The purchase of safety equipment for school buildings and any training associated with the use of the safety equipment."

SECTION 7.43(b) Notwithstanding any provision of this act or the Committee Report described in Section 45.2 of this act to the contrary, the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Public Instruction shall be increased by twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the purpose of establishing and administering the School Safety Fund, as established by this section."; and

on page 159, lines 5-6, by inserting between the lines the following new section to read:

"TRANSFER OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP CASH BALANCE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR THE SCHOOL SAFETY FUND

SECTION 8A.11. Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-562.8(d), the Authority shall transfer to the Department of Public Instruction the sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) in nonrecurring funds from funds that were appropriated for the award of opportunity scholarships pursuant to Part 2A of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes and unexpended at the end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year. The Department shall allocate these funds to the School Safety Fund pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.70."; and

by adjusting the appropriate totals accordingly.

SIGNED _____
Amendment Sponsor

SIGNED _____
Committee Chair if Senate Committee Amendment

ADOPTED _____ FAILED _____ TABLED _____

**The official copy of this document, with signatures
and vote information, is available in the
Senate Principal Clerk's Office**