

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY



HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY

DRAFT REPORT TO THE
2018 SESSION
of the
2017 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF NORTH CAROLINA

DECEMBER, 2018

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

December XX, 2018

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 2018 REGULAR SESSION
OF THE 2017 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY, respectfully submits the following report to the 2018 Regular Session of the 2017 General Assembly.

Rep. David R. Lewis (Co-Chair)

Rep. John A. Torbett (Co-Chair)

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COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

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The House Select Committee on School Safety (“Committee”) met 7 times after the 2018 Short Session of the 2017 Regular Session. The following is a brief summary of the Committee's proceedings. Detailed minutes and information from each Committee meeting are available in the Legislative Library and on the Committee's [website](#).

August 30, 2018

The Committee held its first meeting on August 30, 2018, at the Harris Conference Center in Charlotte, NC. Susan Sitze, Committee Counsel, provided the Committee with an overview of the Committee's actions and legislation. The Committee then heard from the following speakers:

- Kym Martin, Executive Director, Center for Safer Schools, provided an update on the Center for Safer Schools. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Jalen Lowery, Righteous Keitt, and Emma Katherine Bowers of Generation Nation, a Diverse Network of Young Civic Leaders, spoke about school safety and gun violence.
- Barry Graham, Town of Huntersville Assistant Police Chief.
- Paul Bailey, Town of Matthews Mayor.
- Kress Query, Town of Matthews Commissioner and Member of Mayor's Taskforce on Education.
- Clark Pennington, Town of Matthews Police Chief.
- Ted Biggers, Town of Mint Hill Mayor.
- Tim Ledford, Town of Mint Hill Police Chief.

September 7, 2018

The Committee held a meeting on September 7, 2018, at Watauga High School in Boone, NC. Susan Sitze, Committee Counsel, provided the Committee with an overview of the Committee's actions and legislation. The Committee then heard from the following speakers:

- Melissa Searcy, 1st grade teacher at Blowing Rock, with 29 years teaching experience.
- Christian Hughes, Watauga County High School, spoke about his experience as a member of the student council and President of the Key Club.
- Chris Hughes, Watauga County School Safety Committee and parent of Watauga County High School student.
- Dr. Scott Elliott, Watauga County Schools Superintendent.

- Jay Fenwick, member of Watauga County School Board.
- Jason Cornett, member of Watauga County School Board.
- Ron Henries, member of Watauga County School Board.
- Perry Yates, Watauga County Commissioner.

September 28, 2018

The Committee held a meeting on September 28, 2018, at LeGrand Center in Shelby, NC. Chairman John Torbett welcomed everyone and gave the Committee's opening remarks. Kara McCraw, Committee Counsel, provided the Committee with an overview of the Committee's actions and legislation. The Committee then heard from the following speakers:

- Superintendent Mark Johnson and Erika Berry, Department of Public Instruction, who spoke about the impacts of Hurricane Florence on North Carolina schools, and the disbursement of school safety grant funds.
- Kym Martin, Director of School Safety, Department of Public Instruction spoke about DPI's School Safety Grants Program. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Dr. Stephen Fisher, Cleveland County Schools Superintendent.
- Sandy Hamrick, Student Services Coordinator of Cleveland County Schools.
- Rodney Boarders, Executive Director, Administrative Services, spoke about SROs in Cleveland County.
- Cleveland County Sheriff's Office; Jeff Ledford, Shelby Police Chief; Nathan Phillips, Boiling Springs Police Chief; and Jerry Tessner, Kings Mountain Police Chief, spoke about school safety from a law enforcement perspective.
- Paul J. Norcross, Pheonix Academy Foundation, founder of School Safety Initiative, gave a presentation about Active Shooter Detection System. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Tim Moore, Speaker of the House of Representatives, gave the closing remarks.

October 12, 2018

The Committee held a meeting on October 12, 2018, in Belmont, NC. The Committee then heard from the following speakers:

- Jeffrey Booker, Gaston County Schools Superintendent.
- Dr. Melissa Balknight, Gaston County Schools Associate Superintendent, who spoke about the importance of having more mental health services in North Carolina schools.
- Gary Hoskins, Gaston County Schools Associate Superintendent. Information from the Gaston County Schools representatives can be found on the Committee's [website](#).

- Justin Matthews, M.Ed., Mountain Island Charter School Executive Director, gave an overview of Mountain Island Charter School. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Rhett Melton, Partners Behavioral Health Management CEO, spoke about Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorder and Developmental Disabilities. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Alicia Hutchins, Coleman Montgomery, and Carlos Oros, Students from North Gaston High School, spoke about their perspectives and suggestions on school safety. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Chad Brown, Gaston County Commissioners Chairman.
- Kym Martin, Executive Director, Center for Safer Schools, provided an update on the Center for Safer Schools.
- Joseph Ramey, Gaston County Police Chief, provided an update on school safety.
- Alan Cloninger, Gaston County Sheriff, provided an update on school safety.

October 19, 2018

The Committee held a meeting on October 19, 2018, in Wilmington, NC. Kara McCraw, Committee Counsel, provided the Committee with an overview of the Committee's actions and legislation. The Committee then heard from the following speakers:

- Margaret Haynes, Mayor Pro-tem
- Ralph M. Evangelous, Wilmington Police Chief, spoke about actions and programs implemented by the Wilmington Police Department regarding school safety.
- Skip Watkins, County Commissioner, spoke about actions taken by the County Commission regarding school safety.
- Kenneth Sarvis, New Hanover County Chief Deputy Sheriff, spoke about the programs and actions implemented by the Department regarding school safety.
- The following New Hanover County Schools attendees provided updates on the county's school safety efforts:
 - Dr. Tim Markley, Superintendent.
 - Dr. Rick Holliday, Deputy Superintendent
 - Krista Holland, New Hanover County Schools Principal of the Year and Principal of Anderson Elementary School.
 - Cyndy Bliss, Principal of Myrtle Grove Middle School.
 - Dr. Rob Morgan, Principal of New Hanover High School.
 - Kristin Jackson, Director of Student Support Services.
 - Tanya DeShields-Jordan, Supervisor of Counselors/Social Workers.
 - Judy Stubblefield, Behavior Support Specialist.
- Cristen Roggeman, W.H.A.T. from Coastal Horizons, spoke about Mental Health programs in schools.

October 26, 2018

The Committee held a meeting on October 26, 2018, at the Career Center High School in Winston-Salem, NC. Kara McCraw, Committee Counsel, provided the Committee with an overview of the Committee's actions and legislation. The Committee then heard from the following speakers:

- Dr. Chris Nichols, Principal of the Career Center High School, welcomed everyone and gave the opening remarks.
- Dana Caudill Jones, Chair of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Board of Education, spoke about the county's efforts regarding school safety.
- Jonathan Wilson, Director of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Security, gave an update on school security. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Colon Moore, Director, School Construction Planning, spoke about Bond Construction projects and safety components issues. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Dr. Kenneth Simington, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Deputy Superintendent, and Dr. Corliss Thompson-Drew, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Director of Psychological Services spoke about the county's Social, Emotional and Academic Learning Plans. Information from this presentation can be found on the Committee's [website](#).
- Darrell Walker, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Assistant Superintendent for Operations, spoke about challenges and pathways for Legislative support.
- Dr. Beverly Emory, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Superintendent, gave an update, recommendations for legislative changes, and closing remarks

November 2, 2018

The Committee held a meeting on November 2, 2018, at Benhaven Elementary School in Sanford, NC. Committee Co-Chairs Representative David Lewis and Representative John Torbett, and Representative John Sauls welcomed everyone and gave the opening remarks. Jason Moran-Bates, Committee Counsel, provided the Committee with an overview of the Committee's actions and legislation. The Committee then heard from the following speakers:

- Dr. Aaron Fleming, Harnett County Schools Superintendent, gave an update on the county's efforts regarding school safety.
- Bill Morris, Chair, Harnett County School Board.
- Gordon Springle, Chair, Harnett County Board of Commissioners.
- Lauren Cappola, Director, Harnett County Schools Counseling Services gave an update on the County's counseling and student support services.
- Wayne Coats, Harnett County Sheriff, gave an update on programs and actions implemented by the Department regarding school safety.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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RECOMMENDATION 1: FURTHER STUDY IS NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A STATE-WIDE SYSTEM FOR MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly enact legislation requiring the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction, in collaboration with the North Carolina Medical Board, the North Carolina Psychology Board, and other stakeholders who deal with the mental health of students, conduct a study to recommend a mental health screening process to identify school children in North Carolina at risk of harming themselves or others. The Committee recommends the results of the study be reported to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than February 15, 2020. The recommendations of the Committee are presented specifically in the attached draft legislation 2019-BCz-2.

RECOMMENDATION 2: CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION REQUIRED IN ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOL.

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly enact legislation requiring instruction on civic responsibility be provided in elementary and middle school courses for North Carolina history and geography, and the high school course on the Founding Principles of the United States of America and the State of North Carolina, and that such instruction focus on respect for school personnel, responsibility for school safety, service to others, and good citizenship. The recommendations of the Committee are presented specifically in the attached draft legislation 2019-TCz-4.

RECOMMENDATION 3: EXPANDED FIRST AID TRAINING REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS, INCLUDING TRAINING IN USE OF AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS AND BLEEDING CONTROL.

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly enact legislation requiring instruction on first aid and emergency care be expanded through twelfth grade, and that additional education be offered to students as part of first aid and emergency care instruction on use of an automated external defibrillator, when equipment is available, and training on the immediate response to bleeding, how to recognize life threatening bleeding, and appropriate ways to stop the bleeding for immediate responders in trauma situations. The recommendations of the Committee are presented specifically in the attached draft legislation 2019-TCz-3.

RECOMMENDATION 4: CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF THE SCHOOL SAFETY GRANTS

The Committee recommends the General Assembly enact legislation continuing and expanding school safety grants for school resource officers, services for students in crisis, school safety training, safety equipment in schools, and school mental health support personnel. The Committee recommends increasing funding for these grants, based on need as demonstrated by 2018 applications, from a total of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) in recurring and nonrecurring funds in 2018 to a 2019 total of fifty-three million one hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$53,190,000) in recurring and nonrecurring funds. The expanded program would also add a two-to-one matching requirement of State to non-State dollars for the school mental health support personnel grants. The specific recommendations of the committee are presented in the attached draft legislation 2019-MTza-3.

RECOMMENDATION 5: REINTRODUCE SCHOOL SAFETY LEGISLATION PROPOSED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DURING THE 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly reconsider school safety legislation proposed by the Committee during the 2017 Legislative Session, specifically an act to require (i) local school administrative units to establish threat assessment teams and peer-to-peer support programs, (ii) public schools to participate in school safety measures, (iii) public schools in a county to comply with the county local school administrative unit's state of emergency plan, (iv) training standards and annual reporting for school resource officers and (v) local school administrative units to complete facility vulnerability assessments for its school buildings. The specific recommendations of the Committee are presented in 2019-BQz-2.

RECOMMENDATION 6: CONTINUE THE STUDY OF WAYS TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY THROUGH CREATION OF THE HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly establish a new study committee for the 2019-2020 biennium to continue the study of school safety legislation for both elementary and secondary schools, as well as the North Carolina community colleges and constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. The specific recommendations of the Committee are presented in 2019-TCz-6.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

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2017-2018

Speaker of the House of Representatives Appointments:

Rep. David R. Lewis (Co-Chair)
Rep. John A. Torbett (Co-Chair)

Rep. John Faircloth (Vice-Chair)
Rep. John R. Bell, IV
Rep. Larry M. Bell
Rep. MaryAnn Black
Rep. James L. Boles, Jr.
Rep. William Brawley
Rep. Dana Bumgardner
Rep. Justin P. Burr
Rep. Becky Carney
Rep. Carla D. Cunningham
Rep. Ted Davis, Jr.
Rep. Jimmy Dixon
Rep. Josh Dobson
Rep. Nelson Dollar
Rep. Jeffrey Elmore
Rep. Jean Farmer-Butterfield
Rep. Susan C. Fisher
Rep. Elmer Floyd
Rep. Rosa U. Gill
Rep. Charles Graham
Rep. Holly Grange
Rep. Jon Hardister
Rep. Pricey Harrison
Rep. Kelly E. Hastings

Rep. Cody Henson
Rep. Yvonne Lewis Holley
Rep. D. Craig Horn
Rep. Pat B. Hurley
Rep. Frank Iler
Rep. Verla Insko
Rep. Darren G. Jackson
Rep. Linda P. Johnson
Rep. Brenden H. Jones
Rep. Jonathan C. Jordan
Rep. Donny Lambeth
Rep. Marvin W. Lucas
Rep. Chris Malone
Rep. Allen McNeill
Rep. Rodney W. Moore
Rep. Garland E. Pierce
Rep. Bobbie Richardson
Rep. Stephen M. Ross
Rep. Jason Saine
Rep. Michael Speciale
Rep. Sarah Stevens
Rep. Larry C. Strickland
Rep. Harry Warren
Rep. Donna McDowell White

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COMMITTEE CHARGE/STATUTORY AUTHORITY

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Office of the Speaker
North Carolina House of Representatives

TIM MOORE
SPEAKER

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY
TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Section 1. The House Select Committee on School Safety (hereinafter "Committee") is established by the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1) and to Rule 26(a) in Section 1 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2017 General Assembly.

Section 2. The Committee consists of forty one members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The membership of the Committee shall include legislators as specified below. Members serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House of Representatives may dissolve the Committee at any time. Vacancies are filled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. A Chair, Vice Chair, or other member of the Committee continues to serve until a successor is appointed.

Representative David Lewis, Co-Chair	Representative Nelson Dollar	Representative Brenden Jones
Representative John Torbett, Co-Chair	Representative Jeffrey Elmore	Representative Donny Lambeth
Representative John Faircloth, Vice-Chair	Representative Elmer Floyd	Representative Marvin Lucas
Representative John Bell	Representative Rosa Gill	Representative Chris Malone
Representative Larry Bell	Representative Holly Grange	Representative Allen McNeill
Representative Mary Ann Black	Representative Pricey Harrison	Representative Rodney Moore
Representative Jamie Boles	Representative Kelly Hastings	Representative Garland Pierce
Representative William Brawley	Representative Cody Henson	Representative Stephen Ross
Representative Dana Bumgardner	Representative Yvonne Holley	Representative Jason Saine
Representative Justin Burr	Representative Craig Horn	Representative Sarah Stevens
Representative Carla Cunningham	Representative Pat Hurley	Representative Larry Strickland
Representative Ted Davis	Representative Verla Insko	Representative Harry Warren
Representative Jimmy Dixon	Representative Darren Jackson	Representative Donna White
Representative Josh Dobson	Representative Linda Johnson	

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Section 3. The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and Article 5A of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes. The Committee may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services, as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Committee shall examine the current safety standards and procedures throughout North Carolina's elementary, middle and high schools and make recommendations on statutory and non-statutory changes in order to ensure the highest level quality of safety for North Carolina students, teachers and other school personnel. In light of recent devastating national events that have threatened school safety, the Committee may consult with local governments and LEAs on processes and procedures that have proven to be useful in unsafe situations in our schools. The Committee may seek information from experts in the fields of education, law enforcement, mental health, crisis management and any others deemed appropriate by the Chairs. In addition, the Chairs of this Committee may use their discretion in identifying other relevant topics to enhancing and ensuring safety in our schools.

Section 4. Members of the Committee shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as provided in G.S. 120-3.1.

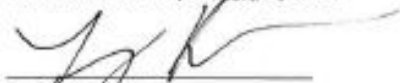
Section 5. The expenses of the Committee including per diem, subsistence, travel allowances for Committee members, and contracts for professional or consultant services shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-32.02(c) and G.S. 120-35 from funds available to the House of Representatives for its operations. Individual expenses of \$5,000 or less, including per diem, travel and subsistence expenses of members of the Committee, and clerical expenses shall be paid upon the authorization of the Chair of the Committee. Individual expenses in excess of \$5,000 shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 6. The Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist the Committee in its work. The Director of Legislative Assistants of the House of Representatives shall assign clerical support staff to the Committee.

Section 7. The Committee may meet at various locations around the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations.

Section 8. The Committee may submit an interim report on the results of its findings, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the House of Representatives at any time. The Committee may submit a final report on the results of its findings, including any proposed legislation to the members of the House of Representatives on or before December 31, 2018. The Committee may advise the House to concur or not to concur on legislation within the Committee's possession. Reports shall be submitted by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the House Principal Clerk, and the Legislative Library. The Committee terminates on December 31, 2018, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first.

Effective this 20th day of February 2018.



Tim Moore, Speaker

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

H

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BILL DRAFT 2019-BCz-2 [v.3]

**(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)
11/09/2018 02:21:02 PM**

Short Title: School Mental Health Screening Study.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO STUDY THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING PROCESS FOR CHILDREN IN NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction shall conduct a study to recommend a mental health screening process to identify school children in North Carolina at risk of harming themselves or others. In conducting this study, the Departments shall collaborate with the North Carolina Medical Board, the North Carolina Psychology Board, organizations concerned with school mental health, and any other stakeholders the Departments deem appropriate.

SECTION 2. The study shall examine at least all of the following issues:

- (a) Whether the State should require a mental health screen to identify school-aged children at risk of harming themselves or others.
- (b) Which mental health professionals should conduct any mental health screen of school-aged children in North Carolina, including whether specific training or experience in working with school-aged children who might be at risk of harming themselves or others should be required in addition to licensure as a healthcare or mental health provider.
- (c) What behaviors or mental health diagnoses the screen should be targeted to identify.
- (d) The format the screen is to take, including whether an independent mental health screen must be developed, or whether an existing product may be used. The study shall examine at least the Pearson BASC-2 Behavioral and Emotional Screening System and the FastBridge Learning Social, Academic, and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener to determine if either system could be developed into, or used as, a state-wide screen.
- (e) Whether the screen must be uniform throughout the State or whether the Departments should create general guidelines to be followed by each local school administrative unit.
- (f) Creation of a policy to ensure that any children identified as being at risk of harming themselves or others receive the mental health services they need to

1 ameliorate that risk. The study shall examine what type of mental health
2 providers can provide follow up services, whether these services may be
3 provided by mental health support staff employed by local school
4 administrative units, and the feasibility of local school administrative units
5 partnering with private organizations to provide these services.

6 (g) Creation of a policy regulating the storage of, and access to, the confidential
7 health information generated by a screen.

8 (h) The optimal age to initiate screening and whether screening should be
9 repeated at different ages.

10 (i) Whether parents will be permitted to opt out of the screen.

11 (j) Whether individuals who perform mental health screening of school-aged
12 children at risk of harming themselves or others should be immune from suit
13 for their actions and omissions in performing those screens.

14 (k) Any other issues the Departments deem necessary.

15 **SECTION 3.** The Departments shall report their findings to the Joint Legislative
16 Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Legislative Education
17 Oversight Committee no later than February 15, 2020.

18 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H

D

BILL DRAFT 2019-TCz-4 [v.4]

(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)
11/14/2018 06:27:25 PM

Short Title: Civic Responsibility Education.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ENSURE INSTRUCTION IN CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY, AS RECOMMENDED
3 BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding
6 a new section to read:

7 "**§ 115C-46. Civic responsibility.**

8 (a) The State Board of Education shall include instruction on civic responsibility in the
9 standard course of study for both the elementary and middle school courses for North Carolina
10 history and geography, and the high school course on the Founding Principles of the United
11 States of America and the State of North Carolina.

12 (b) The instruction of civic responsibility shall be focused on the following:

13 a. Respect for school personnel. – In the school environment, respect includes
14 holding teachers, school administrators, and all school personnel in high
15 esteem and demonstrating in words and deeds that all school personnel
16 deserve to be treated with courtesy and proper deference.

17 b. Responsibility for school safety. – Helping to create a harmonious school
18 atmosphere that is free from threats, weapons, and violent or disruptive
19 behavior; cultivating an orderly learning environment in which students and
20 school personnel feel safe and secure; and encouraging the resolution of
21 conflicts and disagreements through peaceful means, including peer
22 mediation. Instruction in this responsibility should include a consistent and
23 age-appropriate antiviolence message and a conflict resolution component for
24 students in kindergarten through grade 12. These messages should include
25 media-awareness education to help children recognize stereotypes and
26 messages portraying violence.

27 c. Service to others. – Engaging in meaningful service to their schools and their
28 communities. Schools may teach service-learning by (i) incorporating it into
29 their standard curriculum or (ii) involving a classroom of students or some
30 other group of students in one or more hands-on community service projects.
31 All schools are encouraged to provide opportunities for student involvement
32 in community service or service-learning projects.

1 d. Good citizenship. – Obeying the laws of the nation and this State; abiding by
2 school rules; and understanding the rights and responsibilities of a member of
3 a republic."

4 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-81.60(a) reads as rewritten:

5 "**§ 115C-81.60. Character education.**

6 ~~(a)~~ Each local board of education shall develop and implement character education
7 instruction with input from the local community. The instruction shall be incorporated into the
8 standard curriculum and should address the following traits:

9 ..."

10 **SECTION 2.(b)** G.S. 115C-81.60(b) is repealed.

11 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
12 the 2020-2021 school year.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H

D

BILL DRAFT 2019-TCz-3 [v.5]

(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)
11/14/2018 06:46:45 PM

Short Title: First Aid Training for All Students.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE BLEEDING CONTROL AND USE OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL
3 DEFIBRILLATORS AS PART OF REQUIRED FIRST AID TRAINING FOR PUBLIC
4 SCHOOL STUDENTS AND TO REQUIRE INSTRUCTION IN FIRST AID AND
5 EMERGENCY CARE EDUCATION IN HIGH SCHOOL, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE
6 HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding
9 a new section to read:

10 "**§ 115C-81.22. First aid and emergency care education.**

11 (a) Instruction shall be provided in first aid and emergency care education from
12 kindergarten through grade 12. First aid and emergency care shall include, but is not limited to,
13 the teaching of the following:

14 (1) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

15 (2) Heimlich maneuver.

16 (3) Use of an automated external defibrillator, when equipment is available.

17 (4) Bleeding control.

18 (b) Instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the Heimlich maneuver shall
19 be given using hands on training with mannequins so that students pass a test approved by the
20 American Heart Association or American Red Cross. For the purposes of this subsection, schools
21 shall do all of the following:

22 (1) Use an instructional program developed by the American Heart Association,
23 the American Red Cross, or other nationally recognized programs that is based
24 on the most current national evidence based emergency cardiovascular care
25 guidelines for CPR.

26 (2) Maintain documentation in an electronic database that students have
27 successfully completed CPR instruction to meet healthful living essential
28 standards.

29 (3) Require successful completion of instruction in CPR to be a requirement for
30 high school graduation.

31 (c) Instruction in the use of an automated external defibrillator shall provide training in
32 the appropriate use of an automated external defibrillator in heart-related emergencies, when
33 equipment is available for training.

1 (d) Instruction in bleeding control shall provide training on the immediate response to
2 bleeding, how to recognize life-threatening bleeding, and appropriate ways to stop the bleeding
3 for immediate responders in trauma situations.

4 (e) The State Board of Education shall develop and maintain a recommended list of first
5 aid and emergency care materials that include components for teacher training and ongoing
6 assessment and evaluation to verify success and ensure the use of up-to-date information and
7 strategies.

8 (f) The Department of Public Instruction shall do the following:

9 (1) Work to strengthen instructional offerings in the content and skill areas in
10 which first aid and emergency care education is addressed.

11 (2) Develop curricular materials and resources that meet, extend, and supplement
12 first aid and emergency care education as outlined in the standard course of
13 study and the teacher handbook for the competency-based curriculum.

14 (3) Recommend to the State Board of Education any first aid and emergency care
15 education support materials that should be removed from or added to the
16 recommended list of curricular resources developed and maintained by the
17 State Board of Education.

18 (g) Local boards of education may select supplemental first aid and emergency care
19 education materials from the list maintained by the State Board of Education or develop their
20 own supplemental materials to be approved by the State Board of Education.

21 (h) Local boards of education shall do the following:

22 (1) Implement an approved first aid and emergency care education as a primary
23 part of their comprehensive health education program.

24 (2) Provide for ongoing evaluation of first aid and emergency care education
25 resources, to include participation in ongoing evaluations with the Department
26 of Public Instruction.

27 (i) The Department of Public Instruction, in conjunction with local school administrative
28 units, shall provide for professional development to train educators and support personnel to
29 implement a comprehensive first aid and emergency care education program.

30 (j) Sequential, age-appropriate instruction shall be provided that includes all of the
31 following:

32 (1) Reaches all students in all grades.

33 (2) Utilizes information that is current and accurate.

34 (3) Involves students in active "hands-on" learning experiences.

35 (4) Integrates first aid and emergency care education with other health and social
36 issues and other subject and skill areas of the standard course of study.

37 (5) Includes strategies to involve parents, family members, and the community.

38 (6) Is continually open to revision, expansion, and improvement."

39 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-81.25(c)(10) reads as rewritten:

40 ~~"(10) First aid and emergency care, care, including the teaching of cardiopulmonary~~
41 ~~resuscitation (CPR) and the Heimlich maneuver by using hands on training~~
42 ~~with mannequins so that students pass a test approved by the American Heart~~
43 ~~Association or American Red Cross. For the purposes of this subdivision,~~
44 ~~schools shall do all of the following:~~

45 ~~a. Use an instructional program developed by the American Heart~~
46 ~~Association, the American Red Cross, or other nationally recognized~~
47 ~~programs that is based on the most current national evidence-based~~
48 ~~emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for CPR.~~

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- b. ~~Maintain documentation in an electronic database that students have successfully completed CPR instruction to meet healthful living essential standards.~~
- e. ~~Require successful completion of instruction in CPR to be a requirement for high school graduation by the 2014-2015 school year."~~

SECTION 3. This act is effective July 1, 2020, and applies beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

H

D

BILL DRAFT 2019-MTza-3 [v.12]

**(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)
11/30/2018 02:47:40 PM**

Short Title: 2019 School Safety Grants Program.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ENACT THE 2019 SCHOOL SAFETY GRANTS PROGRAM AND TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER GRANTS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) Definitions. – For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) Community partner. – A public or private entity, including, but not limited to, a nonprofit corporation or a local management entity/managed care organization (LME/MCO), that partners with a local school administrative unit to provide services or pay for the provision of services for the unit.
- (2) Public school unit. – A local school administrative unit, regional school, innovative school, laboratory school, or charter school.
- (3) School mental health support personnel. – School nurses, school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers.

SECTION 1.(b) Program; Purpose. – The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall establish the 2019 School Safety Grants Program (program). The purpose of the program shall be to improve safety in public school units by providing grants for (i) services for students in crisis, (ii) school safety training, (iii) safety equipment in schools, and (iv) school mental health support personnel.

SECTION 1.(c) Grant Applications. – A public school unit or community partner, as appropriate, may submit an application to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a grant pursuant to this section. The application shall include an assessment, to be performed in conjunction with a local law enforcement agency, of the need for improving school safety within the public school unit that would receive the funding or services. The application shall identify current and ongoing needs and estimated costs associated with those needs.

SECTION 1.(d) Criteria and Guidelines. – By August 1, 2019, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall develop criteria and guidelines for the administration and use of the grants pursuant to this section, including any documentation required to be submitted by applicants. In assessing grant applications, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall consider at least all of the following factors:

- (1) The level of resources available to the public school unit that would receive the funding or services.

- 1 (2) Whether the public school unit has received other grants of funding for school
2 safety.
- 3 (3) The overall impact on student safety in the public school unit if the identified
4 needs are funded.

5 **SECTION 1.(e)** Grants for Students in Crisis. – Of the funds appropriated to the
6 Department of Public Instruction by this act for the program in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the
7 Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human
8 Services, shall use up to four million five hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$4,580,000) in
9 recurring funds to award grants to community partners to provide or pay for the provision of any
10 of the following crisis services:

- 11 (1) Crisis respite services for parents or guardians of an individual student to
12 prevent more intensive or costly levels of care.
- 13 (2) Training and expanded services for therapeutic foster care families and
14 licensed child placement agencies that provide services to students who (i)
15 need support to manage their health, welfare, and safety and (ii) have any of
16 the following:
 - 17 a. Cognitive or behavioral problems.
 - 18 b. Developmental delays.
 - 19 c. Aggressive behavior.
- 20 (3) Evidence-based therapy services aligned with targeted training for students
21 and their parents or guardians, including any of the following:
 - 22 a. Parent-child interaction therapy.
 - 23 b. Trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy.
 - 24 c. Dialectical behavior therapy.
 - 25 d. Child-parent psychotherapy.
- 26 (4) Any other crisis service, including peer-to-peer mentoring, that is likely to
27 increase school safety. Of the funds allocated to the Superintendent for grants
28 pursuant to this section, the Superintendent shall not use more than ten percent
29 (10%) for the services identified in this subdivision.

30 **SECTION 1.(f)** Grants for Training to Increase School Safety. – Of the funds
31 appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction by this act for the program in the 2019-2020
32 fiscal year, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of
33 Health and Human Services, shall use up to four million five hundred seventy thousand dollars
34 (\$4,570,000) in recurring funds to award grants to community partners that will address school
35 safety by providing training to help students develop healthy responses to trauma and stress. The
36 training shall be targeted and evidence-based and shall include any of the following services:

- 37 (1) Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) training for school mental
38 health support personnel, local first responders, and teachers on the topics of
39 suicide prevention and reducing access by students to lethal means.
- 40 (2) Training for school mental health support personnel on comprehensive and
41 evidence-based clinical treatments for students and their parents or guardians,
42 including any of the following:
 - 43 a. Parent-child interaction therapy.
 - 44 b. Trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy.
 - 45 c. Behavioral therapy.
 - 46 d. Dialectical behavior therapy.
 - 47 e. Child-parent psychotherapy.
- 48 (3) Training for students and school employees on community resilience models
49 to improve understanding and responses to trauma and significant stress.

- 1 (4) Training for school mental health support personnel on Modular Approach to
2 Therapy for Children with Anxiety, Depression, Trauma, or Conduct
3 problems (MATCH-ADTC), including any of the following components:
4 a. Trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy.
5 b. Parent and student coping skills.
6 c. Problem solving.
7 d. Safety planning.
- 8 (5) Any other training, including the training on the facilitation of peer-to-peer
9 mentoring, that is likely to increase school safety. Of the funds allocated to
10 the Superintendent for grants pursuant to this section, the Superintendent shall
11 not use more than ten percent (10%) for the services identified in this
12 subdivision.

13 **SECTION 1.(g)** Grants for Safety Equipment. – Of the funds appropriated to the
14 Department of Public Instruction by this act for the program in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the
15 Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human
16 Services, shall use up to six million one hundred forty thousand dollars (\$6,140,000) in
17 nonrecurring funds to award grants to local school administrative units, regional schools,
18 innovative schools, or laboratory schools for the purchase of safety equipment for
19 government-owned school buildings.

20 **SECTION 1.(h)** Grants for School Mental Health Support Personnel. – Of the funds
21 appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction by this act for the program in the 2019-2020
22 fiscal year, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall use up to eighteen million two hundred
23 thousand dollars (\$18,200,000) in recurring funds to award grants to public school units to
24 provide all or a portion of the salary and benefits costs needed to employ additional school mental
25 health support personnel on a full-time, part-time, or contractual basis. Grants shall be matched
26 on the basis of two dollars (\$2.00) in State funds for every one dollar (\$1.00) in non-State funds.

27 **SECTION 1.(i)** Supplement Not Supplant. – Grants provided to public school units
28 or community partners pursuant to the program shall be used to supplement and not to supplant
29 State or non-State funds already provided for these services.

30 **SECTION 1.(j)** Administrative Costs. – Of the funds appropriated to the Department
31 of Public Instruction by this act for the program in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the Superintendent
32 of Public Instruction may retain up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2019-
33 2020 fiscal year for administrative costs associated with the program.

34 **SECTION 1.(k)** Report. – No later than April 1, 2020, the Superintendent of Public
35 Instruction shall report on the program to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee,
36 the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative
37 Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety, the Joint Legislative Commission on
38 Governmental Operations, and the Fiscal Research Division. The report shall include the identity
39 of each entity that received a grant through the program, the amount of funding provided to each
40 entity that received a grant, the use of funds by each entity that received a grant, and
41 recommendations for the implementation of additional effective school safety measures.

42 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
43 Public Instruction for the 2019-2020 fiscal year the following sums for the following purposes:

- 44 (1) The sum of six million one hundred forty thousand dollars (\$6,140,000) in
45 nonrecurring funds for school safety equipment pursuant to Section 1(g) of
46 this act.
- 47 (2) The sum of thirty-five million fifty thousand dollars (\$35,050,000) in
48 recurring funds for (i) grants for students in crisis pursuant to Section 1(e) of
49 this act, (ii) grants for school safety training pursuant to Section 1(f) of this
50 act, (iii) grants for school mental health support personnel pursuant to Section

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1(h) of this act, and (iv), beginning with the 2019-2020 fiscal year, an additional seven million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$7,700,000) in recurring funds for school resource officers in accordance with the grant program established pursuant to Section 7.27(e) of S.L. 2018-5.

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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D

BILL DRAFT 2019-BQz-2 [v.9]

(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)
12/04/2018 12:28:49 PM

Short Title: School Safety Omnibus.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY, AS
3 RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
6

7 **PART I. REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL SAFETY FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-5 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

9 "(11) Public school unit. – Any of the following:

10 a. A local school administrative unit.

11 b. A charter school.

12 c. A regional school.

13 d. A school providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by
14 one of the following:

15 1. The State Board of Education, including schools operated
16 under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter.

17 2. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated
18 under Articles 4, 29, and 29A of Chapter 116 of the General
19 Statutes."

20 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.46, 115C-105.47A, and 115C-105.48, are codified
21 into Part 1 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, Local Plans for Alternative
22 Schools/Alternative Learning Programs and Maintaining Safe and Orderly Schools. Part 1 shall
23 be entitled "Local Plans for Alternative Schools/Alternative Learning Programs." The remaining
24 sections of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes shall be codified into Part 2, which
25 shall be entitled "Maintaining Safe and Orderly Schools."

26 **SECTION 1.(c)** G.S. 115C-105.49 reads as rewritten:

27 **"§ 115C-105.49. School safety exercises.**

28 (a) At least once annually, each ~~local school administrative~~public school unit shall
29 require each school under its control to hold a full school-wide tabletop exercise and drill based
30 on the procedures documented in its School Risk Management Plan ~~(SRMP).~~(SRMP), and shall
31 report the date and time the drill is conducted to the Center for Safer Schools. The drill shall
32 include a practice school lockdown due to an intruder on school grounds. Each school is
33 encouraged to hold a tabletop exercise and drill for multiple hazards included in its SRMP.
34 Schools are strongly encouraged to include local law enforcement agencies and emergency

1 management agencies in their tabletop exercises and drills. The purpose of the tabletop exercises
2 and drills shall be to permit participants to (i) discuss simulated emergency situations in a
3 low-stress environment, (ii) clarify their roles and responsibilities and the overall logistics of
4 dealing with an emergency, and (iii) identify areas in which the SRMP needs to be modified.

5 ...
6 (d) The Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, and the
7 Center for Safer Schools shall provide guidance and recommendations to ~~local school~~
8 ~~administrative public school~~ units on the types of multiple hazards to plan and respond to,
9 including intruders on school grounds.

10 **SECTION 1.(d)** G.S. 115C-105.49A(b) reads as rewritten:

11 "(b) In constructing the SRRMS, the Division of Emergency Management and the Center
12 for Safer Schools shall leverage the existing enterprise risk management database, the School
13 Risk Management Planning tool managed by the Division. The Division shall also leverage the
14 ~~local school administrative public school~~ unit and participating nonpublic school schematic
15 diagrams of school facilities. Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any
16 anonymous tip lines established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.51 and any 911-initiated panic alarm
17 systems authorized as part of a SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). The Division and the Center
18 for Safer Schools shall collaborate with the Department of Public Instruction and the North
19 Carolina 911 Board in the design, implementation, and maintenance of the SRRMS."

20 **SECTION 1.(e)** G.S. 115C-105.52 reads as rewritten:

21 **"§ 115C-105.52. School crisis kits.**

22 The Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety
23 through the North Carolina Center for Safer Schools, may develop and adopt policies on the
24 placement of school crisis kits in schools and on the contents of those kits. The kits should
25 include, at a minimum, basic first-aid supplies, communications devices, and other items
26 recommended by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

27 The principal of each school, in coordination with the law enforcement agencies that are part
28 of the ~~local board of education's public school unit's~~ School Risk Management Plan, may place
29 one or more crisis kits at appropriate locations in the school.

30 **SECTION 1.(f)** G.S. 115C-105.53 reads as rewritten:

31 **"§ 115C-105.53. Schematic diagrams and emergency access to school buildings for local
32 law enforcement agencies.**

33 (a) Each ~~local school administrative public school~~ unit shall provide the following to
34 local law enforcement agencies: (i) schematic diagrams, including digital schematic diagrams,
35 and (ii) either keys to the main entrance of all school buildings or emergency access to key storage
36 devices such as KNOX® boxes for all school buildings. ~~Local school administrative~~Public
37 school units shall provide updates of the schematic diagrams to local law enforcement agencies
38 when substantial modifications such as new facilities or modifications to doors and windows are
39 made to school buildings. ~~Local school administrative~~Public school units shall also be
40 responsible for providing local law enforcement agencies with updated access to school buildings
41 when changes are made to the locks of the main entrances or to key storage devices such as
42 KNOX® boxes.

43 (b) The Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Public
44 Safety, shall develop standards and guidelines for the preparation and content of schematic
45 diagrams and necessary updates. ~~Local school administrative~~Public school units and participating
46 nonpublic schools may use these standards and guidelines to assist in the preparation of their
47 schematic diagrams.

48"

49 **SECTION 1.(g)** G.S. 115C-105.54(a) reads as rewritten:

1 (a) Each ~~local school administrative~~public school unit shall provide the following to the
2 Division of Emergency Management (Division) at the Department of Public Safety: (i) schematic
3 diagrams, including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response information
4 requested by the Division for the School Risk Management Plan (SRMP). ~~Local school~~
5 ~~administrative~~Public school units shall also provide updated schematic diagrams and emergency
6 response information to the Division when such updates are made. The Division shall ensure that
7 the diagrams and emergency response information are securely stored and distributed as provided
8 in the SRMP to first responders, emergency personnel, and school personnel and approved by
9 the Department of Public Instruction."

10 **SECTION 1.(h)** G.S. 115C-218.75(b), (d), and (e) are repealed.

11 **SECTION 1.(i)** G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

12 "(g) Each charter school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of Article
13 8C of this Chapter."

14 **SECTION 1.(j)** G.S. 115C-238.66(7a), (7b), (7c), and (7d) are repealed.

15 **SECTION 1.(k)** G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

16 "(14) Each regional school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2
17 of Article 8C of this Chapter."

18 **SECTION 1.(l)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(10), (11), (12), and (13) are repealed.

19 **SECTION 1.(m)** G.S. 116-239.8(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

20 "(17) Laboratory schools shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of
21 Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

22 **SECTION 1.(n)** G.S. 115C-75.9 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

23 "(h1) School Safety. – Innovative schools shall comply with the applicable requirements of
24 Part 2 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

25 **SECTION 1.(o)** Article 9C of Chapter 115C is amended by adding a new section to
26 read:

27 "§ 115C-150.16. School safety.

28 A school governed by this Article shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of
29 Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

30 **SECTION 1.(p)** Article 4 of Chapter 116 is amended by adding a new section to
31 read:

32 "§ 116-69.2. School safety.

33 The school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of Article 8C of Chapter
34 115C of the General Statutes."

35 **SECTION 1.(r)** G.S. 116-235 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

36 "(j) School Safety. – The school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2
37 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

38 **SECTION 1.(s)** G.S. 115C-551 reads as rewritten:

39 **§ 115C-551. Voluntary participation in the State programs.**

40 (a) Any ~~such private church~~ school or school of religious charter may, on a voluntary
41 basis, participate in any State operated or sponsored program which would otherwise be available
42 to such school, including but not limited to the high school competency testing and statewide
43 testing programs.

44 (b) All private church schools and all schools of religious charter are encouraged to do
45 the following:

46 (1) School Risk Management Plan. – In coordination with local law enforcement
47 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents
48 of school violence. In constructing and maintaining these plans, the school
49 may utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)
50 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not considered a

1 public record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall
2 not be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6.

3 (2) Schematic diagrams and school crisis kits. – Provide schematic diagrams and
4 keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law enforcement
5 agencies, in addition to implementing the provisions in G.S. 115C-105.52.

6 (3) School safety exercises. – At least once a year, hold a full school-wide
7 lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and emergency management
8 agencies that are part of the regional school's SRMP.

9 (4) Safety information provided to the Department of Public Safety, Division of
10 Emergency Management. – Provide the following: (i) schematic diagrams,
11 including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response
12 information requested by the Division for the SRMP. The schematic diagrams
13 and emergency response information are not considered public records as the
14 term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not be subject to
15 inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

16 **SECTION 1.(t)** G.S. 115C-559 reads as rewritten:

17 **"§ 115C-559. Voluntary participation in the State programs.**

18 (a) Any ~~such~~ qualified nonpublic school may, on a voluntary basis, participate in any
19 State operated or sponsored program which would otherwise be available to such school,
20 including but not limited to the high school competency testing and statewide testing programs.

21 (b) All qualified nonpublic schools are encouraged to do the following:

22 (1) School Risk Management Plan. – In coordination with local law enforcement
23 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents
24 of school violence. In constructing and maintaining these plans, the school
25 may utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)
26 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not considered a
27 public record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall
28 not be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6.

29 (2) Schematic diagrams and school crisis kits. – Provide schematic diagrams and
30 keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law enforcement
31 agencies, in addition to implementing the provisions in G.S. 115C-105.52.

32 (3) School safety exercises. – At least once a year, hold a full school-wide
33 lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and emergency management
34 agencies that are part of the regional school's SRMP.

35 (4) Safety information provided to the Department of Public Safety, Division of
36 Emergency Management. – Provide the following: (i) schematic diagrams,
37 including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response
38 information requested by the Division for the SRMP. The schematic diagrams
39 and emergency response information are not considered public records as the
40 term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not be subject to
41 inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

42 **SECTION 1.(u)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning
43 with the 2019-2020 school year.

44
45 **PART II: CLARIFY THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE CENTER FOR SAFER**
46 **SCHOOLS**

47
48 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-105.57 reads as rewritten:

49 **"§ 115C-105.57. Center for Safer Schools.**

1 (a) Center for Safer Schools Established. – There is established the Center for Safer
2 ~~Schools.Schools.~~ The Center for Safer Schools shall be administratively located in the
3 Department of Public Instruction. The Center for Safer Schools shall consist of an ~~executive~~
4 ~~director~~Executive Director appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and such other
5 professional, administrative, technical, and clerical personnel as may be necessary to assist the
6 Center for Safer Schools in carrying out its powers and duties.

7 (b) Executive Director. – The Executive Director shall report to and serve at the pleasure
8 of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at a salary established by the Superintendent within
9 the funds appropriated for this purpose.

10 (c) Powers and Duties. – The Center for Safer Schools shall have the following duties, and
11 all other powers and duties provided in this ~~Article.~~Article:

12 (1) Serve as a resource and referral center for the State by conducting research,
13 sponsoring workshops, and providing information regarding current school
14 safety concerns.

15 (2) Provide training and professional development for public school personnel in
16 the development and implementation of initiatives promoting school safety.

17 (3) Maintain and disseminate information to public schools on effective school
18 safety initiatives in North Carolina and across the nation.

19 (4) Collect, analyze, and disseminate various North Carolina school safety data.

20 (5) Provide technical and instructional assistance to facilitate the development of
21 partnerships between the public and private sectors to promote school safety
22 in North Carolina.

23 (6) Recommend a system of accountability to the General Assembly to document
24 school safety exercises, including practice school lockdowns, required by
25 G.S. 115C-105.49.

26 (7) Develop model policies for threat assessment teams for public school units,
27 including procedures for the assessment of and intervention with students
28 whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of school staff or students. The
29 Center of Safer Schools shall consult with and involve the Task Force for
30 Safer Schools and relevant State government agencies in development of the
31 model policies.

32 (8) Assist law enforcement officers assigned to schools and their agencies in
33 active shooter response drills and other pertinent school safety related training.

34 (9) Collaborate with the North Carolina Justice Academy, the North Carolina
35 Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, and the
36 North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission to
37 establish and maintain updated training curriculum for school resource
38 officers.

39 (10) Coordinate grants for school resource officers in elementary and middle
40 schools and ensure that training requirements for school resource officers
41 funded by those grants are met.

42 (11) Provide technical assistance to public school units in the development and
43 implementation of initiatives promoting school safety.

44 (d) Agency Cooperation. – All State agencies and departments shall cooperate with the
45 Center for Safer Schools in carrying out its powers and duties, as necessary, in accordance with
46 this Article. The Center of Safer Schools shall coordinate, collaborate, and seek information as
47 necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities from State and local government agencies,
48 who shall provide information upon request to the Center. These agencies include the following:

49 (1) Department of Public Safety.

50 (2) Department of Health and Human Services.

- 1 (3) Department of Public Instruction.
- 2 (4) North Carolina Justice Academy.
- 3 (5) Governor's Crime Commission.
- 4 (6) State Bureau of Investigation Fusion Center, Information Sharing, and
- 5 Analysis Center.
- 6 (7) Governing bodies of public school units.
- 7 (8) Local law enforcement agencies.

8 (e) Task Force Guidance – The Center of Safer Schools shall receive guidance and advice
9 from the Task Force for Safer Schools."

10 **SECTION 2.(b).** This section is effective when it becomes law. Model policies for
11 threat assessment teams required by G.S. 115C-105.57(c)(7), as enacted by this act, shall be
12 developed by the Center for Safer Schools no later than December 31, 2019.

13 14 **PART III: THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS**

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

17 **"§ 115C-105.60. Threat assessment teams.**

18 (a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

19 (1) Superintendent. – The superintendent or, if there is no superintendent, the staff
20 member with the highest decision making authority.

21 (2) Threat. – A concerning communication or behavior that indicates that an
22 individual poses a danger to the safety of school staff or students through acts
23 of violence or other behavior that would cause harm to self or others. The
24 threat may be expressed or communicated behaviorally, orally, visually, in
25 writing, electronically, or through any other means, and is considered a threat
26 regardless of whether it is observed by or communicated directly to the target
27 of the threat or observed by or communicated to a third party, and regardless
28 of whether the target of the threat is aware of the threat.

29 (3) Threat assessment. – A fact-based process emphasizing an appraisal of
30 observed, or reasonably observable, behaviors to identify potentially
31 dangerous or violent situations, to assess them, and to manage or address
32 them.

33 (4) Threat assessment team. – A team that includes persons with expertise in
34 counseling, instruction, school administration, and law enforcement that
35 conducts threat assessments in a public school unit. When practicable, at least
36 one member of a threat assessment team shall be a psychologist or
37 psychiatrist. Members of a threat assessment team who are not employees of
38 the public school unit may review student records as provided in 34 C.F.R. §
39 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B) pursuant to a written agreement with the public school unit
40 of the requirements and responsibilities for use of student records under the
41 federal Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act.

42 (b) The governing body of the public school unit shall adopt policies for the establishment
43 of threat assessment teams, including the conduct of threat assessments and intervention with
44 individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff or students, consistent
45 with the model policies developed by the Center for Safer Schools in accordance with
46 G.S. 115C-105.57(c)(7). Such policies shall include procedures for referrals to health care
47 providers for evaluation or treatment, when appropriate.

48 (c) The superintendent may establish a committee charged with coordination and
49 monitoring of the threat assessment teams operating within the unit, which may be an existing

1 committee established by the unit. The committee shall include individuals with expertise in
2 human resources, education, school administration, mental health, and law enforcement.

3 (d) Each school in the public school unit shall have a threat assessment team established
4 by the superintendent. In the discretion of the superintendent, an established threat assessment
5 team may serve more than one school in the unit. Each team shall do the following:

6 (1) Provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of
7 threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community,
8 school, or self.

9 (2) Conduct threat assessments to determine appropriate actions and intervention
10 based on the level of threat determined by the assessment. A threat assessment
11 team shall determine the level of threat posed by an individual or situation as
12 follows:

13 a. Low risk. – A threat in which the individual or situation does not
14 appear to pose a threat of violence or serious harm to self or others and
15 any exhibited issues or concerns can be resolved easily.

16 b. Moderate risk. – A threat in which the person or situation does not
17 appear to pose a threat of violence or serious harm to self or others, at
18 this time, but exhibits behaviors that indicate a continuing intent and
19 potential for future violence or serious harm to self or others or
20 exhibits other concerning behavior that requires intervention.

21 c. High risk. – A threat in which the person or situation appears to pose
22 a threat of violence or serious harm to self or others, exhibiting
23 behaviors that indicate both a continuing intent to harm and efforts to
24 acquire the capacity to carry out the plan, and may also exhibit other
25 concerning behavior that requires intervention.

26 d. Imminent risk. – A threat in which the person or situation appears to
27 pose a clear and immediate threat of serious violence toward others
28 that requires containment and action to protect identified or
29 identifiable target or targets and may also exhibit other concerning
30 behavior that requires intervention.

31 (3) Identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior
32 should be reported.

33 (4) Implement policies adopted by the governing body of the public school unit
34 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

35 (5) Utilize anonymous reporting applications for students to receive information
36 about school safety concerns requiring investigation.

37 (e) Upon a preliminary determination that an individual poses a high risk or imminent
38 risk threat of violence or physical harm to self or others, a threat assessment team shall
39 immediately report its determination to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, who
40 shall respond as follows:

41 (1) The superintendent or designee shall immediately attempt to notify the
42 student's parent or legal guardian. The superintendent may delegate the
43 responsibility for notification to the principal of the school and may require
44 notice be made to the principal directly.

45 (2) In the case of an imminent risk threat determined to be an emergency under
46 the standards established by the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act
47 in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(I), the superintendent or designee shall provide
48 notice to individuals who are the subject of the threat and, if a student is the
49 subject of a threat, the superintendent or designee shall provide notice to the
50 student's parent or legal guardian. All notices shall be in accordance with the

1 Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g. The
2 superintendent may delegate the responsibility for notification to the principal
3 of the school and may require notice be made to the principal directly.

4 (3) In the case of an imminent risk threat, the superintendent or designee shall
5 immediately notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency. In the case
6 of a high risk threat, the superintendent or designee shall notify the appropriate
7 local law enforcement agency when recommended by the threat assessment
8 team.

9 (4) The superintendent or designee shall refer the matter to the appropriate mental
10 health resources when recommended by the threat assessment team.

11 (5) The superintendent or designee shall comply with the requirements of Article
12 27 of this Chapter for any student discipline actions.

13 Nothing in this subsection shall preclude public school personnel from acting immediately to
14 address an imminent risk threat.

15 (f) Each threat assessment team established pursuant to this section shall report
16 quantitative data on its activities to the Center for Safer Schools according to guidance developed
17 by the Center. Such data shall include, as a minimum, the following:

18 (1) Number of threat assessments conducted annually and demographic
19 information on subjects of those assessments.

20 (2) Number of threat assessments that resulted in a determination that the
21 individual being assessed was a high risk or imminent risk threat and
22 demographic information on those individuals.

23 (3) Types of actions taken in response to a determination that the individual being
24 assessed was a high risk or imminent risk threat.

25 (4) Results of actions taken in response to determination that the individual being
26 assessed was a high risk or imminent risk threat.

27 (g) Upon a preliminary determination by the threat assessment team that an individual
28 poses an imminent risk threat, a threat assessment team may obtain the following:

29 (1) Health records. – Notwithstanding G.S. 8-53 or any other provision of law, a
30 health care provider may disclose protected health information related to an
31 imminent risk threat to the health or safety of school staff or students to a
32 member of a threat assessment team who is a school nurse, school
33 psychologist, or other licensed health or licensed mental health professional.
34 The member of the threat assessment team who receives the health records
35 shall provide an explanation of the health records when sharing those records
36 with the remainder of the threat assessment team.

37 (2) Criminal records. – A threat assessment team may obtain criminal history as
38 provided in G.S. 143B-931A. For a threat assessment of a student with
39 juvenile records, the threat assessment team shall have access to written
40 notifications received pursuant to G.S. 7B-3101 and information gained from
41 examination of juvenile records in accordance with G.S. 7B-3100, held
42 pursuant to G.S. 115C-404. Records held pursuant to G.S. 115C-404 shall be
43 returned to the principal following review by the threat assessment team.

44 Any information shared among members of the threat assessment team pursuant to this
45 subsection shall remain confidential, shall not be a public record subject to Chapter 132 of the
46 General Statutes, and shall only be released in connection with an emergency under the standards
47 established by the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(I)."

48 **SECTION 3.(b)** Article 13 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by
49 adding a new section to read:

50 **"§ 143B-931A. Criminal records checks for threat assessment teams.**

1 The Department of Public Safety may provide a criminal record check to the members of a
2 threat assessment team established by the governing body of a public school unit, as defined in
3 G.S. 115C-5(11), pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.76 for the purpose of administering criminal justice
4 in assessing or intervening when a preliminary determination has been made that an individual
5 poses an imminent risk threat to school safety. No member of a threat assessment team shall
6 rediscover any criminal history record information obtained pursuant to this section or otherwise
7 use any record of an individual beyond the purpose that such disclosure was made to the threat
8 assessment team."

9 **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

10 "(64) Peer-to-peer student support programs. – Local boards of education shall
11 require peer-to-peer student support programs be established at all schools
12 with grades six and higher, and are encouraged to implement peer-to-peer
13 student support programs as appropriate in other grades."

14 **SECTION 3.(d)** G.S. 115C-316.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

15 "(c) School counselors, as part of the direct services provided in subsection (a) of this
16 section, shall coordinate and provide training for students in peer-to-peer student support
17 programs that address areas such as conflict resolution, general health and wellness, and
18 mentoring. The Center for Safer Schools will support school counselors in the administration and
19 delivery of peer-to-peer student support programs."

20 **SECTION 3.(e)** This section is effective when it becomes law. All public school
21 units, as defined in G.S. 115C-5(11), as enacted by subsection (a) of Section 1 of this act, shall
22 establish threat assessment teams as required by G.S. 115C-105.60, as enacted by this act, no
23 later than March 1, 2020. The remainder of this section applies beginning with the 2019-2020
24 school year.

25 26 **PART IV. COUNTY LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS STATE OF** 27 **EMERGENCY PLAN.**

28 **SECTION 4.(a)** G.S. 115C-47(40) reads as rewritten:

29 "(40) Adopt School Risk Management Plans. – Each local board of education shall,
30 in coordination with local law enforcement and emergency management
31 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents
32 of school violence for each school in its jurisdiction. As part of the SRMPs,
33 each county local board of education, following consultation with any other
34 public school units within the county, shall adopt a state of emergency plan
35 for the public school units of the county. In constructing and maintaining these
36 plans, local boards of education and local school administrative units shall
37 utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)
38 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not a public
39 record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not
40 be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

41 **SECTION 4.(b)** Article 8C of Chapter 115 of the General Statutes is amended by
42 adding a new section to read:

43 **§ 115C-105.50. State of emergency plans.**

44 (a) For purposes of this section, the term "countywide state of emergency" means a state
45 of emergency with a defined area covering the entirety of the jurisdiction of a county declared
46 by any of the following:

- 47 (1) The President of the United States, under the Stafford Act (P.L. 93-288).
- 48 (2) The General Assembly, under G.S. 166A-19.20.
- 49 (3) The Governor, under G.S. 166A-19.20.
- 50 (4) The governing body of a county, under G.S. 166A-19.22.

1 (b) In the event of a countywide state of emergency, the county board of education shall
2 implement the state of emergency plan developed pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). All public
3 school units located within that county shall comply with the plan developed by the county board
4 of education."

5 SECTION 4.(c) This section is effective when it becomes law, and applies beginning
6 with the 2019-2020 school year. County boards of education shall adopt the state of emergency
7 plan required under this section by October 1, 2019.

8
9 **PART V. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINED/TRAINING**
10 **STANDARDS/REPORTS**

11 SECTION 5.(a) Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
12 adding a new section to read:

13 **"§ 115C-105.70. School resource officer.**

14 (a) A school resource officer is any law enforcement officer assigned to one or more
15 public schools, at least 20 hours per week, to assist with school security, safety, emergency
16 preparedness, emergency response, or any other responsibility assigned by the school or law
17 enforcement agency.

18 (b) All school resource officers must comply with any continuing education training
19 requirements, as established by subsection (c) of this section. A law enforcement officer who did
20 not serve as a school resource officer during the 2019-2020 school year shall also complete the
21 initial training as established by subsection (c) of this section.

22 (c) The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission
23 and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission, in collaboration
24 with the Center for Safer Schools, shall establish initial training and continuing education
25 standards for school resource officers. These standards shall, at a minimum, include training on
26 the following topics: mental health, students with disabilities, and crisis intervention and de-
27 escalation."

28 SECTION 5.(b) G.S. 17C-6(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

29 "(19) Establish initial training and continuing education training standards for
30 school resource officers, as set forth in G.S. 115C-105.70."

31 SECTION 5.(c) G.S. 17E-4(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

32 "(17) Establish initial training and continuing education training standards for
33 school resource officers, as set forth in G.S. 115C-105.70."

34 SECTION 5.(d) The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training
35 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards
36 Commission, in collaboration with the Center for Safer Schools, shall establish initial training
37 standards for school resource officers no later than January 15, 2020.

38 SECTION 5.(e) Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
39 adding a new section to read:

40 **"§ 115C-105.71. School resource officer reports.**

41 (a) Each public school unit shall report by September 15, 2019, and annually thereafter,
42 in writing to the Center for Safer Schools the number of school resource officers and the
43 placement of each school resource officer in the public school unit. This report shall include the
44 source of funding and method of employment for each school resource officer position.

45 (b) The Center for Safer Schools shall report by November 15, 2019, and annually
46 thereafter, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee an executive summary and
47 the disaggregated data for each public school unit regarding the information reported by public
48 school units pursuant to subsection (a) of this section."

1 **SECTION 5.(f)** Subsection (a) of this section is effective when it becomes law and
2 applies to school resource officers employed beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. The
3 remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law.
4

5 **PART VI. SCHOOL BUILDING VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT.**

6 **SECTION 6.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
7 adding a new section to read:

8 **"§ 115C-105.52A. Facility vulnerability assessments.**

9 **(a) At least once annually, each governing body of a public school unit shall require each**
10 **school under its control to complete a facility vulnerability assessment for each school building.**

11 **(b) The Center for Safer Schools, in collaboration with the Department of Public**
12 **Instruction, Division of School Operations, shall develop a facility vulnerability assessment tool.**
13 **This tool shall be used by public school units when completing a facility vulnerability**
14 **assessment."**

15 **SECTION 6.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.49A(b), as amended by Section 1(d) of this act,
16 reads as rewritten:

17 "(b) In constructing the SRRMS, the Division of Emergency Management and the Center
18 for Safer Schools shall leverage the existing enterprise risk management database, the School
19 Risk Management Planning tool managed by the Division. The Division shall also leverage the
20 public school unit and participating nonpublic school schematic diagrams of school facilities.
21 Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any anonymous tip lines established
22 pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.51 and any 911-initiated panic alarm systems authorized as part of a
23 SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). **Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any**
24 **facility vulnerability assessments as part of an SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.52A.** The
25 Division and the Center for Safer Schools shall collaborate with the Department of Public
26 Instruction and the North Carolina 911 Board in the design, implementation, and maintenance of
27 the SRRMS."

28 **SECTION 6.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law. The Center for Safer
29 Schools and the Department of Public Instruction shall develop the facility vulnerability
30 assessment tool by January 15, 2020. Each governing body of a public school unit shall require
31 each school under its control to complete a facility vulnerability assessment for each school
32 building before the end of the 2019-2020 school year and annually thereafter.
33

34 **PART VII. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

35 **SECTION 7.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.
36

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DRAFT

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

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BILL DRAFT 2019-TCz-6 [v.2]

**(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)
11/30/2018 01:47:07 PM**

Short Title: Continue Study to Improve School Safety.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT CREATE THE HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY, AS
RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) The House Study Committee on School Safety (Committee) is created. The purpose of the Committee is to continue the work of the House Select Committee on School Safety in examining the current safety standards and procedures in both elementary, secondary, and institutions of higher education to ensure the highest level of quality and safety for North Carolina students, teachers, and other school personnel.

SECTION 1.(b) The Committee shall consist of 41 members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall appoint two co-chairs from among the membership. The co-chairs shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed by the Speaker. Vacancies on the Committee shall be filled by the Speaker.

SECTION 1.(c) The Committee shall meet upon the call of the co-chairs.

SECTION 1.(d) A quorum shall be a majority of the Committee members.

SECTION 1.(e) The Committee shall study issues related to current safety standards and procedures, mental health, and school mental health personnel in elementary and secondary schools. The Committee may also study issues related to safety and mental health for North Carolina institutions of higher education. The Committee shall consider sources of funding for initiatives related to school safety, include investigation of federal funding that can be leveraged to support these initiatives. The Committee may consult with public schools, local governments, community colleges, and constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina on processes and procedures that have proven to be useful in unsafe situations in school. The Committee may seek information from experts in the fields of education, law enforcement, mental health, crisis management, and any others deemed appropriate by the co-chairs. The Committee may study any other issue deemed relevant by the co-chairs to the charge of the Committee.

SECTION 1.(f) The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and Article 5A of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes. The Committee may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building. Members of the Committee shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1. The expenses of the Committee shall be paid upon the written approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-32.02(c) and G.S. 120-35 from funds available to the House of Representatives for its operation.

1 The Legislative Services Committee, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall
2 assign professional staff to assist the Committee in its work. The Director of Legislative
3 Assistants of the House of Representatives shall assign clerical support to the Task Force. The
4 Committee may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services, as provided by
5 G.S. 120-32.02.

6 **SECTION 1.(g)** The Committee may submit an interim report on the results of its
7 study, including any proposed legislation, by May 1, 2020, to the members of the House of
8 Representatives by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives and the Legislative Library. The Committee shall submit a final report on the
10 results of its study, including any proposed legislation, by December 31, 2020, to the members
11 of the House of Representatives by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the Speaker of
12 the House of Representatives and the Legislative Library. The Committee shall terminate on
13 December 31, 2020, or upon the filing of its report, whichever occurs first.

14 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.