

## **HOUSE BILL 75:** School Safety Funds, Programs, and Reports.

## 2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Appropriations/Base Budget. If Date: September 10, 2019

favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of

the Senate

**Introduced by:** Reps. Torbett, Lewis, Dobson, Bell

**Analysis of:** PCS to Fourth Edition

H75-CSMVa-3

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OVERVIEW: The Proposed Committee Substitute to House Bill 75 (PCS) would appropriate funds for school safety, require an annual report on school resource officers, establish certain school safety grants programs, require the development of a recommended school mental health crisis response program, require annual reports on school mental health support personnel, express the intention of the General Assembly that additional funds provided for instructional support personnel be used to fund additional school mental health support personnel, require the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to study and report on school psychologist and school counselor positions, and provide for eight additional agents of the State Bureau of Investigation to support the Behavioral Threat Assessment program.

## **BILL ANALYSIS:**

- Section 1.1 would appropriate funds for the school safety provisions in the PCS.
- Section 2.1 would require the Center for Safer Schools to conduct a census of school resource officers in public school units.
- Section 3.1 would codify and fund grants for school resource officers and provide additional nonrecurring grants in 2019-2020 for students in crisis, training to increase school safety, and safety equipment in schools.
- Section 4.1. would direct DPI and the Center for Safer Schools to develop a recommended program to facilitate the transfer of school mental health support personnel between school districts during or after a crisis.
- Section 5.1. (i) would require annual local and statewide reports on differences in the number of school mental health support personnel in the State from year to year and (ii) expresses the intention of the General Assembly that additional funds provided for instructional support personnel be used to fund additional school mental health support personnel.
- Section 6.1 would require DPI to study and report on school psychologist and school counselor positions.
- Section 7.1 would fund eight full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for sworn agents at the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to support the Behavioral Threat Assessment (BETA) program.

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## **House PCS 75**

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• Section 8.1 contains administrative provisions aligning the PCS with (i) House Bill 966 of the 2019 Regular Session (the 2019 proposed budget) and (ii) the statutory continuing budget resolution currently in effect (G.S. 143C-5-4).

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Except as otherwise provided, the PCS would become effective July 1, 2019.