



# HOUSE BILL 832: Revise School Safety Grant Program.

2025-2026 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 29, 2025
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Blackwell, Campbell, Cunningham, Wheatley	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Samantha Yarborough Committee Counsel
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 832 would add additional training for students and school employees as eligible services for school safety grants established by the 2023 Appropriations Act.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Section 7.36 of S.L. 2023-134, as amended by Section 3J.17 of S.L. 2024-57, provides funding for the School Safety Grants Program to improve safety in public school units by providing grants for services for students in crisis, school safety training, safety equipment in schools, and subsidizing the School Resource Officer Grants Program through an application process administered by the Executive Director of the Center for Safer Schools. The grants for training to increase school safety require the Executive Director, in consultation with DHHS, to award grants to public school units to contract with community partners to address school safety by providing training to help students develop healthy responses to trauma and stress. The training must be targeted and evidence-based and can include any of the following:

- Counseling on Access to Lethal Means training for school mental health support personnel, local first responders, and teachers on the topics of suicide prevention and reducing access by students to lethal means.
- Training for school mental health support personnel on comprehensive and evidence-based clinical treatments for students and their parents or guardians.
- Training for students and school employees on community resilience models to improve understanding and responses to trauma and significant stress.
- Training for school mental health support personnel on Modular Approach to Therapy for Children with Anxiety, Depression, Trauma, or Conduct problems.
- Other training, including training on the facilitation of peer-to-peer mentoring, that is likely to increase school safety.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 832 would add the following as eligible services for the School Safety Grants Program:

- Training for students and school employees on violence prevention and developing personal and interpersonal skills to (i) enhance individual level protective factors, (ii) mitigate or reduce risk taking or harmful behavior, and (iii) improve understanding and responses to trauma and significant stress.
- Training or education programming on personal and interpersonal skills or character education.
- Training or education programming addressing violence prevention and suicide prevention.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** House Bill 832 would be effective when it becomes law.

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