



SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 20.9: School Safety Grants

2025-2026 General Assembly

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 20.9

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Section 20.9 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) directs the Executive Director of the Center for Safer Schools to establish the School Safety Grants Program (Program) for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The purpose of the program is 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) subsidizing the School Resource Officer Grants Program.

This section sets out the grant application process and criteria and guidelines for the administration and use of the grants. The program provides for grants for (i) students in crisis, (ii) training to increase school safety, and (iii) safety equipment. Additionally, funds may be used to cover applications received for funding for school resource officers if applications exceed the funding appropriated for school resource officer funding.

The Executive Director of the Center for Safer Schools shall report on the program to the General Assembly not later than April 1, 2027.

This section became effective July 1, 2026.

Kara McCraw
Director



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