

REFERENCE TITLE: school safety program; proposals

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2024

## **HB 2400**

Introduced by  
Representative Gress

### **AN ACT**

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-154 AND 15-155, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 41, CHAPTER 56, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 41-5706; RELATING TO SCHOOL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-154, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 15-154. School safety program; purpose; program proposals;  
5 requirements; annual report; definitions

6 A. The school safety program is established within the department  
7 of education to support, promote and enhance safe and effective learning  
8 environments for all students by supporting the costs of placing school  
9 resource officers, juvenile probation officers, SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS,  
10 school counselors, ~~and~~ school social workers AND SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS on  
11 school campuses. THE SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM MAY ALSO SUPPORT THE COSTS OF  
12 PURCHASING SAFETY TECHNOLOGY, SAFETY TRAINING AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
13 IMPROVEMENTS FOR SCHOOL CAMPUSES AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION D OF THIS  
14 SECTION. A school district or charter school may apply to participate in  
15 the school safety program as provided in this section for up to three  
16 fiscal years by submitting by April 15 a program proposal to the  
17 department of education. A school district or charter school that  
18 receives approval for a three-year program under this subsection may  
19 annually submit a modified spending plan for its approved program.

20 B. A program proposal submitted by a school district or charter  
21 school for supporting the costs of placing school resource officers, ~~or~~  
22 juvenile probation officers OR SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS, or ~~both~~ ANY  
23 COMBINATION OF THESE OFFICERS, on a school campus shall contain:

24 1. A detailed description of the school safety needs of the charter  
25 school or school district.

26 2. A plan for implementing a law-related education program or a  
27 plan that demonstrates the existence of a law-related education program as  
28 a school safety prevention strategy.

29 3. A plan to use trained school resource officers, ~~or~~ juvenile  
30 probation officers OR SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS, OR ANY COMBINATION OF THESE  
31 OFFICERS, in the school, ~~or both~~.

32 4. A PLAN TO TRAIN SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS, JUVENILE PROBATION  
33 OFFICERS OR SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS, OR ANY COMBINATION OF THESE OFFICERS,  
34 ON THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT, CIVIL RIGHTS AND  
35 ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.

36 ~~4.~~ 5. If the school district or charter school has already  
37 participated in the school safety program, information on the success,  
38 compliance and implementation of the most recent grant.

39 C. A program proposal submitted by a school district or charter  
40 school for supporting the costs of placing school counselors, ~~or~~ school  
41 social workers OR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS, or ~~both~~ ANY COMBINATION OF SCHOOL  
42 COUNSELORS, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS OR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS, on a school  
43 campus shall contain:

44 1. A detailed description of the school safety needs of the charter  
45 school or school district.

1           2. A plan for implementing a school guidance and counseling program  
2 that includes the following:

3           (a) A detailed description of the relationship between the school  
4 counselor, ~~or the~~ SCHOOL social worker OR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, or ~~both~~ ANY  
5 COMBINATION OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS OR SCHOOL  
6 PSYCHOLOGISTS, and local community resources.

7           (b) A plan for using school counselor, ~~and~~ school social worker OR  
8 SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST SERVICES, OR ANY COMBINATION OF SCHOOL COUNSELOR,  
9 SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER OR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST services, in the school, ~~or~~  
10 ~~both~~.

11           (c) A detailed description of the methods for evaluating the  
12 effectiveness of the school guidance and counseling plan.

13           (d) Policies on confidentiality under the school guidance and  
14 counseling plan.

15           (e) Policies on notifying parents and other family members of  
16 issues or concerns as identified in the school guidance and counseling  
17 plan.

18           (f) A detailed description of the school's, school district's or  
19 charter school's referral procedures to the appropriate community entities  
20 and state agencies.

21           3. If the school district or charter school has already  
22 participated in the school safety program, information on the success,  
23 compliance and implementation of the most recent approved program  
24 proposal.

25           D. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL WHOSE PROGRAM PROPOSAL  
26 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION WAS APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD  
27 OF EDUCATION CANNOT PLACE ONE OR MORE OF THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER,  
28 JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER OR SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER OR COMBINATION OF  
29 THESE OFFICERS INCLUDED IN THE APPROVED PROGRAM PROPOSAL, THE SCHOOL  
30 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL MAY SUBMIT AN ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR  
31 SUPPORTING THE COSTS OF PURCHASING SAFETY TECHNOLOGY, SAFETY TRAINING AND  
32 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR SCHOOL CAMPUSES. AN ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM  
33 PROPOSAL SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION SHALL CONTAIN:

34           1. A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE SAFETY NEEDS OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL  
35 OR SCHOOL DISTRICT.

36           2. A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED EXPENDITURES AND CAPITAL  
37 IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING:

38           (a) THE SAFETY NEEDS THAT EACH PROPOSED EXPENDITURE WILL ADDRESS.

39           (b) THE SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGY OR TRAINING PROGRAM THAT THE SCHOOL  
40 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL SEEKS TO ACQUIRE.

41           (c) FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE  
42 IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING FEES, SAFETY  
43 EVALUATIONS AND EQUIPMENT FOR SECURING ENTRANCES AND EXITS.

44           3. ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

1           ~~D.~~ E. The department of education shall review and administer the  
2 school resource officers, ~~and~~ juvenile probation officers AND SCHOOL  
3 SAFETY OFFICERS program proposals in cooperation with the courts, law  
4 enforcement agencies and law-related education providers awarded a  
5 contract pursuant to section 41-2534, subject to review and approval by  
6 the state board of education. The department of education shall use  
7 relevant crime statistics to assess the needs of each program proposal and  
8 shall visit school districts and charter schools that submit program  
9 proposals in order to verify the information contained in the program  
10 proposals. The department of education shall contract to provide  
11 guidelines, curricula and support resources for school resource officers  
12 ~~and~~ juvenile probation officers AND SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS to use in  
13 implementing a law-related education program.

14           ~~E.~~ F. The department of education shall review and administer the  
15 school counselors, ~~and~~ school social workers AND SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS  
16 program proposals in cooperation with school administrators, principals,  
17 teachers, parents and community mental health professionals. The  
18 department of education shall use relevant school-level academic, social  
19 and emotional statistics to assess the needs of each program proposal and  
20 shall visit school districts and charter schools that submit program  
21 proposals in order to verify the information contained in the program  
22 proposals.

23           G. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL REVIEW AND ADMINISTER THE  
24 SAFETY TECHNOLOGY, SAFETY TRAINING AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM  
25 PROPOSALS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE RELEVANT CRIME STATISTICS TO ASSESS  
26 THE NEEDS OF EACH PROGRAM PROPOSAL AND MAY VISIT SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND  
27 CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT SUBMIT PROGRAM PROPOSALS IN ORDER TO VERIFY THE  
28 INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE PROGRAM PROPOSALS. THE DEPARTMENT MAY  
29 APPROVE ALL OR PART OF A SAFETY TECHNOLOGY, SAFETY TRAINING OR  
30 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROPOSAL.

31           ~~F.~~ H. The department of education, subject to the review and  
32 approval of the state board of education, shall distribute monies to the  
33 school districts and charter schools that are in compliance with program  
34 requirements and whose program proposals have been approved by the state  
35 board of education.

36           ~~G.~~ I. The department of education shall review program proposals  
37 submitted by school districts and charter schools for participation in the  
38 school safety program and shall select school sites that are eligible to  
39 receive funding based on school safety needs pursuant to this  
40 section. The department of education may prioritize program proposals for  
41 school resource officer, ~~and~~ juvenile probation officer AND SCHOOL SAFETY  
42 OFFICER grants to school districts and charter schools that have  
43 agreements to share the cost of the school resource officer, ~~or~~ juvenile  
44 probation officer OR SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER with a law enforcement agency  
45 or the courts.

1           ~~H.~~ J. The department of education shall evaluate the effectiveness  
2 of all the approved program proposals submitted pursuant to subsections B,  
3 ~~and~~ C AND D of this section within the school safety program and report on  
4 the activities of the program and the participants in the school safety  
5 program to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of  
6 representatives and the governor on or before November 1 of each year and  
7 shall provide a copy of this report to the secretary of state. The  
8 evaluation and report shall include survey results from participating  
9 schools and data from participating schools on the impact of participating  
10 in the school safety program. The department shall establish data  
11 guidelines for school safety program participants to follow in reporting  
12 pursuant to this subsection.

13           ~~I.~~ K. The school safety program established by this section shall  
14 include a school safety program guidance manual adopted by the department  
15 of education that requires a dispute resolution process to be included in  
16 the service agreement between a school district or charter school that  
17 submitted a program proposal and received a school resource officer grant  
18 OR SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER GRANT from the school safety program and the law  
19 enforcement agency that provides services to the school district or  
20 charter school. THE SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION  
21 SHALL INCLUDE A SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS GUIDANCE MANUAL ADOPTED  
22 BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION THAT INCORPORATES A MULTIDISCIPLINARY  
23 SAFETY APPROACH AND IS CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 1-602.

24           ~~J.~~ L. Any appropriations that are made to the department of  
25 education for the approved program proposals within the school safety  
26 program are exempt from the provisions of section 35-190 relating to  
27 lapsing of appropriations. All monies that are not used for an approved  
28 program proposal within the school safety program during the fiscal year  
29 for which the monies were appropriated revert to the department of  
30 education for distribution to the program in the following fiscal year.

31           ~~K.~~ M. Monies received by a school district or charter school under  
32 the SCHOOL SAFETY program shall be spent to implement the approved program  
33 proposals.

34           ~~L.~~ N. The auditor general shall include the school safety program  
35 as part of its ongoing sunset review of agencies and programs.

36           ~~M.~~ O. For the purposes of this section:

37           1. "Law-related education" means interactive education to equip  
38 children and youth with knowledge and skills pertaining to the law, school  
39 safety and effective citizenship.

40           2. "Law-related education program" means a program designed to  
41 provide children and youth with knowledge, skills and activities  
42 pertaining to the law and legal process and to promote law-abiding  
43 behavior with the purpose of preventing children and youth from engaging  
44 in delinquency or violence and enabling them to become productive  
45 citizens.

1           3. "School counselor" means a professional educator who holds a  
2 valid school counselor certificate issued by the department of education.

3           4. "School guidance and counseling program" means a counseling  
4 program that supports, promotes and enhances the academic, personal,  
5 social, emotional and career development of all students.

6           5. "SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST" MEANS A SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH  
7 PROVIDER WHO HOLDS A VALID SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE  
8 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

9           ~~5.~~ 6. "School resource officer" means ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

10           (a) A peace officer. ~~OR~~

11           (b) A full-authority reserve peace officer who is certified by the  
12 Arizona peace officer standards and training board.

13           (c) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED AS A PEACE OFFICER IN  
14 THIS STATE, WHO RETIRED IN GOOD STANDING AND WHO IS ASSIGNED TO  
15 PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAM BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY  
16 PURSUANT TO SECTION 15-155.

17           7. "SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICER" MEANS A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER WHO IS  
18 WORKING IN AN OFF-DUTY CAPACITY.

19           ~~6.~~ 8. "School social worker" means a professional educator who  
20 holds a valid school social worker certificate issued by the department of  
21 education.

22           Sec. 2. Section 15-155, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
23 read:

24           15-155. School safety program; funding

25           A. The department of education shall cooperate with the county  
26 school superintendent, the county sheriff and the local chief of police to  
27 allow a law enforcement agency, with the consent of the school, to assign  
28 a peace officer, ~~OR~~ a full authority Arizona peace officer standards and  
29 training board certified reserve peace officer OR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS  
30 PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED AS A PEACE OFFICER IN THIS STATE AND WHO RETIRED IN  
31 GOOD STANDING to participate in the school safety program in each school  
32 in the county. The cost of the peace officer is a state charge that is  
33 funded by the department of education, except for agreements to share the  
34 cost of the school resource officer pursuant to section 15-154, subsection  
35 ~~6~~ I.

36           B. In cooperation with the department of education and the county  
37 school superintendent and with the consent of the school, the presiding  
38 judge of the juvenile court may assign juvenile probation officers to  
39 participate in the school safety program in each school in the county.  
40 The cost of juvenile probation officers is a state charge that is funded  
41 by the department of education, except for agreements to share the cost of  
42 the juvenile probation officer pursuant to section 15-154, subsection  
43 ~~6~~ I.

1           Sec. 3. Title 41, chapter 56, article 1, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
2 is amended by adding section 41-5706, to read:  
3           41-5706. School buildings blueprints and floor plans; public  
4                           records; exemption  
5           NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, SCHOOL BUILDING BLUEPRINTS AND FLOOR  
6 PLANS ARE NOT PUBLIC RECORDS AND ARE EXEMPT FROM TITLE 39, CHAPTER 1.