

House File 152 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 152

BY COLLINS, DETERMANN, HARRIS,
DUNWELL, HORA, RINKER,
WOOD, GEHLBACH, BODEN,
WILZ, JOHNSON, LATHAM,
GOLDING, HENDERSON,
SORENSEN, YOUNG, NORDMAN,
and BRADLEY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to school resource officers by establishing
2 a rural school security grant program and making
3 appropriations.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256.26 Rural school security grant
2 program — fund.

3 1. The department shall create a rural school security grant
4 program to provide grants to school districts for the hiring
5 and equipping of a school resource officer.

6 2. a. A school district with a basic enrollment for the
7 budget year under section 257.6, subsection 2, of one thousand
8 pupils or less may apply for a grant under the program to hire
9 and equip one school resource officer in the school district.

10 b. A school district may collaborate and partner with one or
11 more school districts or law enforcement agencies to hire and
12 equip the school resource officer position for which the grant
13 application is filed. The school resource officer position may
14 be the position from which the school receives supplementary
15 weighting under section 257.11, subsection 5.

16 c. The applicant school district must specify in the
17 application the amount and sources of other funding for the
18 school resource officer position, including amounts received by
19 the school district as the result of supplementary weighting
20 for a school resource officer under section 257.11, subsection
21 5.

22 d. Grant funds may be used by the school district for school
23 resource officer salaries, benefits, and equipment.

24 3. The department shall, in consultation with the
25 department of public safety's school safety bureau, develop
26 a grant application and selection and evaluation criteria.
27 Applicants that meet the selection and evaluation criteria
28 shall be awarded grants on a first-come-first-served basis.

29 4. A grant awarded to a school district in any single
30 fiscal year shall not exceed an amount equal to the lesser of
31 twenty thousand dollars or twenty percent of the amount of
32 other school district funding sources specified in the school
33 district's application to hire and equip the school resource
34 officer. Amounts paid by a collaborator or partner school
35 district or law enforcement agency shall be part of the amount

1 of other school district funding sources specified in the
2 application.

3 5. A rural school security grant fund is established in the
4 state treasury under the control of the department. There is
5 appropriated from the general fund of the state to the rural
6 school security grant fund for the fiscal year beginning July
7 1, 2023, four million dollars. Moneys credited to the fund are
8 appropriated to the department for purposes of distributing
9 grants under this section. The department may accept gifts,
10 grants, bequests, and other private contributions, as well
11 as state or federal moneys, for deposit in the fund. Moneys
12 available in the rural school security grant fund for a fiscal
13 year shall be distributed as grants to eligible school district
14 applicants pursuant to this section. Notwithstanding section
15 8.33, moneys in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall
16 not revert but shall remain available for expenditure for the
17 purposes designated for subsequent fiscal years.

18 6. For purposes of this section, "*school resource officer*"
19 means the same as defined in section 257.11, subsection 5.

20

EXPLANATION

21 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
22 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

23 This bill directs the department of education to establish
24 a rural school security grant program to provide grants to
25 school districts with basic enrollments for the budget year of
26 1,000 or less for the hiring and equipping of a school resource
27 officer. Under the bill, a school district may collaborate and
28 partner with one or more school districts or law enforcement
29 agencies to hire and equip the school resource officer position
30 for which the grant application is filed. The applicant school
31 district must specify in the application the amount and sources
32 of other funding for the school resource officer position,
33 including amounts received by the school district as the
34 result of supplementary weighting under Code section 257.11,
35 subsection 5. Grant funds may be used for school resource

1 officer salaries, benefits, and equipment.

2 The bill directs the department of education, in
3 consultation with the department of public safety's school
4 safety bureau, to develop a grant application and selection
5 and evaluation criteria. Applicants that meet the selection
6 and evaluation criteria shall be awarded grants on a
7 first-come-first-served basis.

8 A grant awarded to a school district in any single fiscal
9 year shall not exceed an amount equal to the lesser of \$20,000
10 or 20 percent of the amount of other school district funding
11 sources specified in the school district's application from
12 other school district funding sources to hire and equip the
13 school resource officer.

14 The bill establishes a rural school security grant fund
15 and appropriates \$4 million to the fund for the fiscal year
16 beginning July 1, 2023. Moneys in the fund at the close of a
17 fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available for
18 expenditure for the purposes designated for subsequent fiscal
19 years.