

House File 2438 - Introduced

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BY STAED, GJERDE, AMOS JR.,
BAETH, KURTH, STECKMAN,
CAHILL, JAMES, GAINES,
ABDUL-SAMAD, KRESSIG, and
BROWN-POWERS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the security of school district buildings,
2 including establishing the school security grant program
3 within the department of education, establishing design
4 and construction standards for new attendance centers, and
5 making appropriations.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256.20 School security — grant
2 program.

3 1. The department shall establish a school security grant
4 program to provide grants to school districts to help school
5 districts offset the cost associated with installing school
6 safety and security infrastructure, including any of the
7 following:

8 a. Security camera systems.

9 b. Metal detectors.

10 c. Security doors and security windows that can withstand
11 breaching, bullets, and explosive blasts.

12 2. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A
13 to administer this section, including rules relating to grant
14 application materials, eligibility requirements, and award
15 criteria.

16 3. Moneys awarded under this section shall be used to
17 supplement, not supplant, existing public funding used by a
18 school district for similar purposes.

19 4. A school security grant program fund is established
20 in the state treasury. The fund shall be administered by
21 and under the control of the department and shall consist of
22 moneys appropriated by the general assembly and any other
23 moneys received by the department for deposit in the fund.
24 The moneys in the fund are appropriated to the department for
25 the school security grant program. Notwithstanding section
26 8.33, moneys in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall
27 not revert to the general fund of the state but shall remain
28 available for expenditure for the school security grant program
29 for subsequent fiscal years. Notwithstanding section 12C.7,
30 subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall
31 be credited to the fund.

32 5. For each fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2024,
33 there is appropriated from the general fund of the state to
34 the department the sum of three million dollars for the school
35 security grant program.

1 the general fund to DE each fiscal year beginning on or after
2 July 1, 2024, for purposes of the program. The bill provides
3 that moneys in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall
4 not revert to the general fund of the state but shall remain
5 available for expenditure under the program for subsequent
6 fiscal years. The bill also provides that interest or earnings
7 on moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

8 The bill requires that all school district buildings that
9 contain classrooms used for instructional purposes that are
10 designed and built on or after January 1, 2025, meet certain
11 specified requirements related to school security, including
12 each door and window within classrooms in the building must be
13 able to withstand breaching, bullets, and explosive blasts, and
14 the building must have only one point of entry, and that point
15 of entry must lead to a main office that is separated from the
16 classrooms in the building by doors that can be locked. The
17 bill requires the state board of education to adopt rules to
18 administer this provision.