

# **School Safety Plans and Improvements, Appropriations Bill House File 2652**

Last Action:  
House Floor  
March 13, 2024

**An Act relating to school security, including modifying provisions related to the issuance of school bonds, requiring schools to conduct school safety reviews and have access to a public safety answering point, establishing the Firearm Detection Software Grant Program within the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, requiring the Department of Public Safety to convene a task force related to the safety and security standards of schools and school infrastructure, making appropriations, and including effective date and applicability provisions.**

**Fiscal Services Division  
Legislative Services Agency**

## **NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)**

Available online at [www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/information/appropriationBillAnalysis](http://www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/information/appropriationBillAnalysis)  
LSA Staff Contacts: Jacob Ludwig (515.725.0155) and Michael Peters (515.281.6934)

**NEW PROGRAMS, SERVICES, OR ACTIVITIES**

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Requires each institution of learning to have at least one handheld or console radio that is capable of accessing a public safety answering point, at each attendance center, on or before the first day of the school calendar for the school year beginning July 1, 2025.

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Requires the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) to establish a Firearm Detection Software Grant Program to provide grants and assist with the purchasing, installing, and operating of firearm detection software. The HSEMD is required to provide grants under this Program to school districts with varying sizes. Moneys awarded under Section 5 of the Bill will supplement, not supplant, existing public funding for similar purposes. Any software funded through this Program must meet all the following requirements:

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- Is designed to detect and alert school district employees and first responders if there is a visible, unholstered firearm on school property.
- Is capable of integrating with local public safety answering point technology.
- Is designated as qualified anti-terrorism technology by the Secretary of Homeland Security.
- Is designed to integrate with the school district's existing security camera infrastructure.
- Was developed in the United States without the use of any third-party data or open-source data

Requires the HSEMD, if House File 2586 (School Safety and Security Bill) or successor legislation is enacted, to establish a grant program to provide grants to applicable school districts for FY 2025. The grants are not to exceed \$25,000 each and may be used by the school districts for any of the following:

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- Purchasing infrastructure and equipment related to employee permits to carry weapons on school property.
- Facilitating the training associated with employee permits to carry weapons.
- Providing stipends to employees who participate in the training associated with employee permits to carry weapons

**FUNDING FOR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

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Appropriates \$3.0 million from the 911 Emergency Communications Fund to the HSEMD for a Firearm Detection Software Grant Program for FY 2024. Any funds remaining at the close of the fiscal year will remain available for expenditure through FY 2025.

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Establishes a School Security Personnel Grant Program Fund within the State Treasury that will be administered by the HSEMD and consist of funds appropriated by the General Assembly and other moneys received by the HSEMD for deposit in the Fund. The creation of this Fund is contingent upon the passage of

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS AND IMPROVEMENTS, APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

HF 2586 (School Safety and Security Bill).

Authorizes the HSEMD to adopt emergency administrative rules under Iowa Code section [17A.4](#) to implement the Firearm Detection Software Grant Program described in Section 5 of this Bill.

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Requires the cost of any State mandate required in the Bill to be paid from state foundation school aid received by a school district under Iowa Code section [257.16](#).

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## **STUDIES AND INTENT**

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Requires each school to complete a comprehensive review and evaluation of the school's plan for responses to active shooter scenarios and natural disasters. The schools will submit the completed evaluation on or before the first day of the school calendar for the July 1, 2024, school year to the Department of Public Safeties (DPS's) School Safety Bureau, local county and city police forces, and the local district office of the Iowa State Patrol.

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The DPS, in collaboration with the Department of Education (DE) and the HSEMD, will convene and provide administrative support for a School Safety and Security Infrastructure Task Force to study and make recommendations related to safety and security standards of schools and school infrastructure, including safety and security standards related to doors, windows, cameras, and locks. Outlines the composition of the 12 members of the Task Force.

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Requires the Task Force established in Section 6 of the Bill to submit findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2024.

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## **SIGNIFICANT CODE CHANGES**

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Allows a school district to purchase, install, and operate a mobile panic alert system if certain criteria are met.

Page 1, Line 1

Prohibits the issuance of new negotiable, interest-bearing school board bonds for the purposes of new construction or renovation unless all institutions under the school board are in compliance with this Bill.

Page 1, Line 12

Prohibitions related to school bonds as described in Section 2 of the Bill apply to projects approved by school boards and school bonds authorized by voters at an election held after July 1, 2024.

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## **EFFECTIVE DATE**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS AND IMPROVEMENTS, APPROPRIATIONS BILL

This Bill takes effect upon enactment.

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# Justice System

## Other Funds

	<u>Supp-House Action</u> <u>FY 2024</u>
	<u>(1)</u>
<b><u>Homeland Security and Emergency Mgmt</u></b>	
<b>Homeland Security &amp; Emergency Mgmt</b>	
Firearm Detect. Software Grant Prog - E911	\$ 3,000,000
<b>Total Homeland Security and Emergency Mgmt</b>	<u>\$ 3,000,000</u>
<b>Total Justice System</b>	<u><u>\$ 3,000,000</u></u>