
DIGEST

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HB 821 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

McFarland

Abstract: Establishes the La. Center for Safe Schools within the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice and the School and Nonprofit Advisory Council.

Present law establishes the La. Center for Safe Schools (center) within the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

Proposed law recreates the center within the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice.

Proposed law provides for duties and powers of the center, including the following:

- (1) Identifying and prioritizing resources to improve safety and security in schools.
- (2) Collecting and disseminating information on safety needs, training standards, and funding programs.
- (3) Developing a comprehensive statewide school safety framework.
- (4) Assisting schools in developing crisis management and emergency response plans.
- (5) Coordinating with the state Dept. of Education to ensure awareness of safety resources.
- (6) Providing training to schools including emergency operations planning, emergency drills, threat assessment, digital safety, and hazard mitigation.
- (7) Facilitating consistent and comprehensive information sharing between schools.
- (8) Identifying and offering training opportunities.
- (9) Administering systems and coordinating processes relating to threat assessment, violence prevention, risk mitigation, suicide prevention, emergency preparedness, and response coordination.

Proposed law allows the center to acquire platforms and tools and to enter into cooperative agreements to carry out its duties.

Proposed law allows the center to enter into contracts to implement proposed law.

Proposed law allows the center to apply for and implement funding from state, federal, and interstate sources.

Proposed law requires the center to adopt written policies regarding data management and confidentiality except where public records law applies.

Proposed law requires the center to provide an annual report to the governor, State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education, and certain legislative committees.

Proposed law establishes the School and Nonprofit Security Advisory Council and lists members to be appointed to the council.

Proposed law provides duties of the council, including the following:

- (1) Reviewing and endorsing statewide school and nonprofit security frameworks.
- (2) Adopting recommendations regarding interagency coordination, threat assessment, training, emergency preparedness, and implementation.
- (3) Making recommendations regarding funding priorities relating to school and nonprofit security.
- (4) Issuing an annual report by July first to the governor and certain legislative committees regarding school and nonprofit security.

Proposed law prohibits the council from having policymaking and rulemaking authority, entering into contracts, and procuring goods and services.

Proposed law provides that the School and Nonprofit Security Council shall be the successor entity to the La. Commission on School and Nonprofit Security established by present law (R.S. 29:726.5) and provides for the membership of the successor entity.

Proposed law repeals present law (R.S. 29:726.5, 726.5.1, and 726.6).

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 15:1216; Repeals R.S. 29:726.5, 726.5.1, and 726.6)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Add the word "state" to the Department of Education.
2. Name the specific legislative committees required to receive copies of the annual report.
3. Require the annual report to be submitted to governor and legislature no later than July first.
4. Require members serving on the La. Commission on School and Nonprofit Security to continue to serve on the newly created School and Nonprofit Security Advisory Council.
5. Eliminate certain positions on the La. Commission on School and Nonprofit Security.
6. Make technical changes.