

*****Adopted*****

AMENDMENT No. 1 PROPOSED TO

Senate Bill NO. 2528

By Representative(s) Committee

15 Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
16 in lieu thereof the following:

17
18 SECTION 1. Section 37-3-81, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
19 amended as follows:

20 37-3-81. The Department of Education shall establish and
21 maintain a School Safety Center, which shall operate a statewide
22 information clearinghouse that: (a) provides assistance to school
23 districts and communities during school crises; and (b) provides
24 technical assistance, training and current resources to public
25 school officials and parents who need assistance in researching,
26 developing and implementing school safety plans and in maintaining
27 a safe school environment.

28 SECTION 2. Section 37-3-83, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
29 amended as follows:

30 37-3-83. (1) There is established within the State
31 Department of Education a School Safety Grant Program, available
32 to all eligible public school districts, to assist in financing
33 programs to provide school safety.

34 (2) The school board of each school district, with the
35 assistance of the State Department of Education School Safety
36 Center, shall adopt a comprehensive local school district school
37 safety plan and shall update the plan on an annual basis.

38 (3) Subject to the extent of appropriations available, the
39 School Safety Grant Program shall offer any of the following
40 specific preventive services, and other additional services
41 appropriate to the most current school district school safety
42 plan:

43 (a) Metal detectors;

44 (b) Video surveillance cameras, communications
45 equipment and monitoring equipment for classrooms, school
46 buildings and school buses;

47 (c) Crisis management/action teams responding to school
48 violence; * * *

49 (d) Violence prevention training, conflict resolution
50 training, and other appropriate training designated by the State
51 Department of Education for faculty and staff; and

52 (e) School safety personnel.

53 (4) Each local school district of this state may annually
54 apply for * * * school safety grant funds subject to
55 appropriations by the Legislature. School safety grants shall
56 include a base grant amount plus an additional amount per student
57 in average daily attendance in the school or school district. The
58 base grant amount and amount per student shall be determined by
59 the State Board of Education, subject to specific appropriation
60 therefor by the Legislature. In order to be eligible for such
61 program, each local school board desiring to participate shall
62 apply to the State Department of Education by May 31 before the
63 beginning of the applicable fiscal year on forms provided by the
64 department, and shall be required to establish a local School
65 Safety Task Force to involve members of the community in the
66 school safety effort. The State Department of Education shall
67 determine by July 1 of each succeeding year which local school
68 districts have submitted approved applications for school safety
69 grants.

70 (5) As part of the School Safety Grant Program, the State
71 Department of Education may conduct a pilot program to research
72 the feasibility of using video camera equipment in the classroom

73 to address the following:

74 (a) Determine if video cameras in the classroom reduce
75 student disciplinary problems;

76 (b) Enable teachers to present clear and convincing
77 evidence of a student's disruptive behavior to the student, the
78 principal, the superintendent and the student's parents; and

79 (c) Enable teachers to review teaching performance and
80 receive diagnostic feedback for developmental purposes.

81 * * *

82 (6) Any local school district may use audio/visual
83 monitoring equipment in classrooms for the purpose of monitoring
84 school disciplinary problems.

85 (7) The State Department of Education shall report annually
86 to the Chairmen of the Education Committees in the House of
87 Representatives and Senate on the operation of the School Safety
88 Center and the School Safety Grant Program, along with any
89 recommendations for expansion or revision of the program.

90 SECTION 3. (1) There is established a School Crisis
91 Management Program under the State Department of Education. Under
92 this program, the State Department of Education shall create an
93 office making available a quick response team of personnel trained
94 in school safety and crisis management to respond to traumatic or
95 violent situations that impact students and faculty in the public
96 schools in Mississippi. The School Crisis Management Program
97 shall operate in accordance with the following:

98 (a) The basic response team shall consist of those
99 personnel designated by the State Superintendent of Public
100 Education or their designees depending on the size of the school
101 and the nature of the event.

102 (b) In order to access the services of a response team,
103 the request must be made by the local school principal or the
104 superintendent of schools, who shall make the request to the State
105 Department of Education or its contact designee.

106 (c) The requesting school or school district shall
107 commit student time to the response team during the school day,

108 with students to be available to the team either individually or
109 in groups.

110 (d) A response team shall enter a school to work with
111 students and faculty for a period of no more than three (3) days,
112 unless otherwise requested by the school district.

113 (e) Response teams shall be organized on a regional
114 basis in order to provide immediate access to these services.

115 (f) The State Department of Education, or its contact
116 designee, shall operate a toll-free incoming wide area telephone
117 service for the purpose of receiving reports of suspected cases of
118 school violence and other traumatic situations impacting on
119 students and faculty in the public schools.

120 (g) Subject to the availability of funds specifically
121 appropriated therefor by the Legislature, the expenses of the
122 quick response teams and their administrative support shall be
123 provided from state funds. The State Department of Education may
124 apply for and expend funds for the support and maintenance of this
125 program from private and other funding sources.

126 (2) Local school districts, school superintendents and
127 principals may request and utilize the services of quick response
128 teams provided for under this section; however, this section does
129 not require school officials to request the services of quick
130 response teams.

131 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from
132 and after July 1, 2000.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 37-3-81 AND 37-3-83, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
3 ESTABLISH A SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND CRISIS
4 ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS, TO REQUIRE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS
5 TO ADOPT COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS, AND TO AUTHORIZE
6 SCHOOL SAFETY GRANTS TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO FINANCE CERTAIN
7 PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE SCHOOL SAFETY; TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL CRISIS
8 MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WITHIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO
9 PROVIDE FOR A TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL INDIVIDUALS TO RESPOND TO
10 TRAUMATIC OR VIOLENT SITUATIONS THAT IMPACT STUDENTS AND FACULTY
11 IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR THE OPERATION OF
12 THE PROGRAM, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM; AND FOR
13 RELATED PURPOSES.