

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

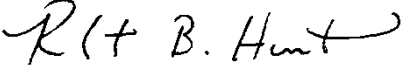
No. 1870

H.P. 1380

House of Representatives, January 5, 2022

An Act Regarding the Maine School Safety Center

Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COREY of Windham.
Cosponsored by Representative: McCREA of Fort Fairfield.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6557**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 398, Pt. HH, §1 and
3 reallocated by RR 2021, c. 1, Pt. A, §19, is amended to read:

4 **§6557. Maine School Safety Center**

5 The Maine School Safety Center, referred to in this section as "the center," is
6 established within the department to ~~ensure~~ assist schools in their efforts to provide for the
7 overall safety of schools in this State their school community. The primary role of the
8 center is to provide training, guidance and technical support to schools in this State
9 regarding ~~safety and security~~ their efforts to safely mitigate against, prepare for, respond to
10 and recover from all hazards and threats.

11 **1. Purposes.** The purposes of the center are to:

12 A. Serve as a central location for school safety and security information, training and
13 technical assistance related to successful implementation of school safety and security
14 programs in schools;

15 B. Be a resource for the prevention of youth violence;

16 C. Promote overall school safety by developing recommendations to support a positive
17 school climate and multiple-hazard mitigation and response plans;

18 D. Develop and provide school emergency management, training, guidance and
19 technical support to include information provided by persons with expertise in the
20 relevant subject matter in the development of the center's school safety specialist
21 education program;

22 E. Promote, develop and implement technical support and training for a behavioral
23 threat assessment program; and

24 F. Facilitate and assist local schools and public safety stakeholders in preventing,
25 preparing for and responding to threats and acts of violence, including self-harm,
26 through a holistic, solution-based approach to improving school safety.

27 **2. Collaboration.** The center shall work collaboratively with all appropriate
28 stakeholders in furtherance of its purposes as set out in subsection 1.

29 **3. Staff and services.** The center's staff consists of a director, assistant director and
30 employees responsible for providing the following services to schools in the State:

31 A. Training, including school safety specialist training and credentialing in a school
32 emergency management education program;

33 B. Mental health and behavioral threat assessment;

34 C. Site assessment and school climate assessment;

35 D. Planning and emergency operation plan review and exercises;

36 E. Training, procedures and best practices for school resource officers and officers that
37 may have interactions with youth;

38 F. Legislation and policy recommendations and review;

39 G. Administrative assistance;

