

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LD 317

Date 6/9/23

(Filing No S-242)

**MINORITY**

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “~~A~~” to S P 138, L D 317, “An Act Regarding Safe Schools”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following

**'An Act Regarding the Possession and Discharge of a Firearm at a School and a Study of Long-term Improvements to School Safety'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6552, sub-§2, ¶A-1** is enacted to read

A-1 The prohibition on the possession and discharge of a firearm does not apply to a law enforcement official who retired in good standing and is currently employed by the public school or private school approved for tuition purposes and who has successfully completed the State's training standard within the last year.

**Sec. 2. Stakeholder group; report.** The Department of Education shall convene a stakeholder group composed of law enforcement officials, social workers, educators, administrators, employees of private security firms, internet technology and technology professionals and mental health professionals to study the long-term solutions to improve the safety of schools in the State. The study must include, but is not limited to

1 An analysis of how to incentivize and encourage the use of school resource officers in schools, especially rural schools, and how funding could be provided, whether through the funding formula or otherwise, to support school resource officer positions,

2 An examination of the role of the Maine School Safety Center and its impact in school safety throughout the State, and

3 A recommendation on the safety of schools in the State and whether contracting for an independent third-party gap analysis and forensic audit would be beneficial in identifying resources and infrastructure upgrades at schools in the State to determine where enhancements need to be implemented to improve the safety of schools and students

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 The Department of Education and stakeholder group shall report back to the Joint  
2 Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, no later than January 2, 2024, with  
3 findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation The joint standing  
4 committee may report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the  
5 131st Legislature

6 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
7 allocations are made

8 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**  
9 **Maine School Safety Center Z293**

10 Initiative Provides one-time funds for the cost to contract for services to facilitate the  
11 stakeholder group convened to study the long-term solutions to improve the safety of Maine  
12 schools

13	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
14	All Other	\$5,000	\$0
15			
16	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

17  
18 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
19 number to read consecutively

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill, which  
22 is a concept draft, and changes the title The amendment

23 1 Provides that the prohibition on the possession and discharge of a firearm on school  
24 property does not apply to a law enforcement official who retired in good standing and is  
25 currently employed by the public school or private school approved for tuition purposes  
26 and has successfully completed the State's training standard within the last year

27 2 Requires the Department of Education to convene a stakeholder group to study long-  
28 term solutions regarding school safety, including the use and funding of school resource  
29 officers, the role of the Maine School Safety Center and a recommendation on contracting  
30 for a 3rd-party gap analysis and forensic audit The department is required to report back  
31 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 2,  
32 2024 on the study The committee may report out a bill related to the study to the Second  
33 Regular Session of the 131st Legislature

34 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
35 (See attached)



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 317

LR 1815(02)

## An Act Regarding Safe Schools

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-242)  
 Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs  
 Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$5,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 to the Maine School Safety Center within the Department of Education for the cost to contract for services to facilitate the stakeholder group convened to study the long-term solutions to improve the safety of Maine schools