

2025 SESSION

LEGISLATION NOT PREPARED BY DLS INTRODUCED

25105343D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 2770**

2 Offered January 17, 2025

3 A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-137.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to school safety procedures;
4 emergency situations; annual training; safety grants.

5 Patron—Garrett

6 Referred to Committee on Education

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

8 **1. That § 22.1-137.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

9 **§ 22.1-137.3. School safety procedures; emergency situations; annual training.**

10 A. In addition to complying with the requirements for drills set forth in §§ 22.1-137, 22.1-137.1, and
11 22.1-137.2, each school board shall develop training on safety procedures in the event of an emergency
12 situation on school property. Such training shall be delivered to each student and employee in each school at
13 least once each school year.

14 B. *There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Virginia
15 School Safety Preparedness Grant Fund. The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All
16 funds appropriated for such purpose and any gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and other funds received on
17 its behalf shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Interest earned on moneys in the
18 Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest
19 thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund.
20 Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the purposes of (i) awarding grants to schools meeting the grant
21 criteria established by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) through the Virginia
22 School Safety Preparedness Grant Program established pursuant to subsection C or (ii) implementing and
23 administering the Virginia School Safety Preparedness Grant Fund and Program. Moneys used for
24 implementing and administering the Fund and Program shall be limited to 70 percent of the amount
25 available in the Fund each year. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State
26 Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the Director.*

27 C. *The Virginia School Safety Preparedness Grant Program is hereby established for the purpose of
28 awarding grants based on criteria established by the VCSCS from such funds as may be available from the
29 Fund to Virginia Schools consisting of any grades pre-k through 12th grade which seek to implement best
30 practice for extreme-trauma injuries. Such training shall include triage of injured and immediate treatment
31 appropriate for singular to mass casualty events. Training should cover the care of people, including
32 children, from bleeding, massive hemorrhaging, and penetrating chest wounds. Training shall be conducted
33 by nationally recognized life-saving trauma care programs.*

34 Funds may also be used for threat assessment and recognition, comprehensive vulnerability assessments
35 for school property, and equipment for treating trauma related injuries, including training equipment for
36 staff and students. Such equipment may include, but not be limited to:

37 • Gloves and other protective equipment
38 • Tourniquets
39 • Compression bandages
40 • Chest seals
41 • Trauma shears
42 • Gauze
43 • Cravats
44 • Hemostatic agents
45 • Blankets
46 • Materials for improvised care
47 • Kits/cases/containers and mounting of gear in pre-planned locations

48 The Program shall be administered by the DCJS Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS)
49 in conjunction with the Board of Education. In administering the Program, the VCSCS shall establish and
50 publish guidelines and criteria for grant awards, including guidelines and criteria governing agreements
51 between the Department and grant recipients relating to the implementation of training programs on the
52 subject of threat assessment and extreme-trauma medical-training. The criteria for grant recipients shall
53 foster an all-inclusive approach to analyzing a school's climate, physical security, communication systems
54 and overall preparedness. The Department shall provide an annual report detailing each grant awarded
55 through the Program.

56 D. Schools which meet the requirements set forth by the Department to receive funds under the program

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59 shall receive an allocation of funds for an approved training program for staff and faculty and for
60 pre-packaged medical equipment offered by the program for placement at key locations around the school.
61 No more than 50% of the funds received by a school shall be utilized for the purchase of pre-packaged
62 medical equipment.

63 No more than \$20,000 shall be awarded to any single private or parochial school, nor more than \$40,000
64 to any single public school district in a given year.

65 E. The Department shall submit an annual report to the General Assembly regarding administration of
66 the Fund and Program for the preceding fiscal year. The report shall include the number of grants awarded,
67 the number of trainings conducted, the number and type of medical equipment supplies purchased, and the
68 total number of participating schools.