



**Department of Planning and Budget**  
**2025 General Assembly Session**  
**State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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This bill would require a SRO in every public school as a Standards of Quality (SOQ) staffing requirement. It is assumed that under the provisions of this bill, SROs would remain employees of local law enforcement agencies and local school divisions would receive state basic aid funding under Direct Aid to Public Education to support the state share of the cost of SROs through collaborative agreements with local law enforcement agencies. It is assumed that the requirement in the second enactment to “fully fund” the staffing standard includes both state and local shares, as with all other basic aid staffing standards.

State funding for positions required by the SOQs is based on prevailing salary data collected by the Department of Education (DOE) from local school divisions in the Annual School Report (ASR), which is used during the rebenchmarking of the Direct Aid to Public Education budget. Currently, data on SRO employment and salary is not collected in the ASR. In order to implement the funding for this staffing requirement in fiscal year 2026, the Department of Education would need to be directed on a method to set funded salaries and benefits for SROs until prevailing salary data can be collected and used. If a data collection was implemented in FY26 the earliest the data would be used is the 2028-2030 biennium. Without actual prevailing salary data, the actual cost of this staffing standard is indeterminate at this time.

DOE is able to provide an estimate of the cost of this staffing standard using a proxy for prevailing salary. DOE provided an estimate based on a prevailing salary of \$58,176, which is based on data previously used to calculate this standard in 2022 and adjusted based on compensation supplements provided through Direct Aid since 2022, and a 29.97% funded fringe benefit rate, which includes a proxy for local law enforcement retirement rates as well as the funded fringe benefit rates assumed for all other positions under Direct Aid to Public Education. Based on these assumptions, DOE estimates an additional state cost of \$88.1 million general fund in FY26. Any impact in future years is indeterminate and would depend on the actual funded salary and the Direct Aid to Public Education budget as rebenchmarking for future biennia.

Local school divisions would have to provide the local share required to match any additional state funds received based on each division’s local composite index. The actual fiscal impact to local school divisions is indeterminate at this time.

The Department of Criminal Justice Services does not expect a fiscal impact if this requirement is funded through Direct Aid to Public Education; however, Item 394 of HB1600/SB800 includes \$20.4 million general fund in FY26 to support the SRO incentive grants, and these funds may not be required if the state share of SROs is funded under Direct Aid to Public Education. Additionally, there may be savings related to any balances in the SRO Incentive Grants Fund if the program is discontinued. Any actual impact related to this program is indeterminate and would require additional legislative action.

**Other:** None.