



HB 7093 School Safety

- **HB 7093** increases school safety and security in Florida schools.
- In 2018, the Florida Legislature passed SB 7026 in response to the tragic shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The bill is a result of the work product of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Commission and recommendations from stakeholders who are implementing the requirements of the school safety act.
- Every aspect of this bill seeks to create a safer environment for students, while giving districts the tools they have asked for.
- The bill increases access to school guardians by allowing private schools and charter schools to employ school guardians, either directly or by contract.
- This bill maintains the option for school districts and charter schools to utilize the Guardian program as an option to maximize school safety and does not require a teacher to be armed.
- The bill revises the safe schools allocation to distribute funds based on the number of students instead of the crime index. The priority use of such funds is now Safe-School Officers, instead of solely School Resource Officers. This will allow school districts and charter schools to use the funds for school guardians.
- The bill increases the ability of the Office of Safe Schools to enforce school safety by allowing the Education Practices Commission to fine superintendents, school board members, and school personnel for noncompliance.
- The bill requires the Office of Safe Schools to determine the types of schools and campuses that need a safe-school officer and the number and type of drills.
- The bill increases information sharing among schools and school districts and revises the requirements of the centralized data repository to include data from Fortify FL and school incidents.
- The bill improves the coordination between schools and law enforcement to provide the appropriate mental and behavioral interventions sooner and allows law enforcement to fulfill their duty regarding school safety.