

1 HB182
2 147471-1
3 By Representative Coleman-Evans
4 RFD: Ways and Means Education
5 First Read: 07-FEB-13

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8 SYNOPSIS: Currently, federal or local funds are used
9 to provide for the hiring, training and equipping
10 of school resource officers in public schools.

11 This bill provides for one-half of the
12 necessary funding for the hiring, training and
13 equipping of school resource officers from a
14 designated funding source and the requirements,
15 duties and responsibilities of a school resource
16 officer.

17
18 A BILL
19 TO BE ENTITLED
20 AN ACT
21

22 To establish the School Resource Officers' Act; to
23 provide for the funding necessary to hire, train and equip
24 school resource officers for every public school in
25 participating school systems; to provide for the requirements,
26 duties and responsibilities of a school resource officer; and

1 to require the State Department of Education to implement and
2 administer the provisions of this act.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. (a) This section shall be known and may
5 be cited as the School Resource Officers' Act of 2013.

6 Section 2. (a) When used in this chapter, the
7 following terms shall have the following meanings:

8 (1) PROGRAM. The School Resource Officers' Program
9 as provided in Section 4.

10 (2) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER. A law enforcement
11 officer as defined in Section 36-21-40 who is employed by a
12 public school system of the state.

13 (3) SCHOOL. Any county or city public school.

14 (4) SCHOOL SYSTEM. Any county or city public school
15 system, the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, the Alabama
16 School of Fine Arts, the Alabama High School of Mathematics
17 and Science, and the Department of Youth Services School
18 District.

19 Section 3. The Legislature finds that a need exists
20 within the state to further ensure that all public K-12
21 schools remain safe, secure and effective places of learning.
22 The Legislature further finds that ensuring safe, secure and
23 effective places of learning is best achieved with the help of
24 school safety partners. Therefore, it is the intent of the
25 Legislature to promote and support the placement of school
26 resource officers in every public K-12 school and that

1 placement of the resource officers be implemented and
2 partially funded in legislation.

3 Section 4. (a) There is hereby established the
4 School Resource Officers' Program. The primary purpose of this
5 program is to make available one-half of the funding that is
6 necessary to place school resource officers in public schools.
7 Each school in the program within a participating school
8 system shall receive an appropriation equal to one-half of the
9 average school resource officer's salary plus benefits
10 annually. The remaining one-half of the necessary funding
11 shall be provided by the local school system which employs the
12 school resource officer.

13 Section 5. (a) School Resource Officers. Local law
14 enforcement officers assigned to or employed by local school
15 systems must meet all state and federal requirements to be a
16 resource officer, including meeting mandatory policy and
17 procedural testing requirements, background checks and
18 periodic health and weapons exams. School resource officers
19 shall also be required to attend continuing education courses
20 and training sessions.

21 (b) A contract or memorandum of understanding
22 entered into under subsection (a) must state the nature and
23 scope of a school resource officer's duties and
24 responsibilities, including the following:

25 (1) The promotion of a safe and orderly school
26 environment through the reduction of rule violations and crime
27 within the school and on school property.

1 (2) Supporting school personnel in efforts to
2 provide a safe, productive learning environment, including
3 enforcement of school rules and administration of school
4 disciplinary policies.

5 (3) Assisting the local school system in the
6 implementation of an emergency preparedness plan or a crisis
7 intervention plan.

8 (4) Acting as a liaison between the local school
9 system and local law enforcement agencies.

10 (5) Assisting school personnel in detecting and
11 addressing instances of bullying, intimidation, harassment and
12 other types of threats to student safety, learning and
13 development.

14 Section 6. The State Department of Education shall
15 lead, implement, provide oversight and administer this act and
16 shall adopt such rules as are necessary in accordance with an
17 implementation plan.

18 Section 7. Passage and approval of this act is
19 contingent upon passage of a proposed Constitutional Amendment
20 creating an Alabama Lottery Corporation with the net proceeds
21 from the lottery dedicated to the Education Trust Fund for
22 classroom instructional supplies, school resource officers and
23 scholarships.

24 Section 8. This act shall become effective on the
25 first day of the third month following its passage and
26 approval by the Governor, or by its otherwise becoming law.