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## Governor's School and Campus Safety Task Force

### Public Safety Workgroup

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#### Legislation Referred to the Task Force as of 1/24/13

**HB 1557: School boards; training for persons designated to carry concealed handguns on school property. (Robert G. Marshall)**

Would amend and reenact §§ 9.1-102, 9.1-184, 18.2-282, 18.2-308, and 18.2-308.1, and add § 22.1-279.10, relating to school boards and training for persons designated to carry concealed handguns on school property. It would require every school board in the Commonwealth to designate at least one qualified person for every school in the district who, upon application with the school board, may carry a concealed handgun on school property. The bill requires all designated persons, including certain school division employees, certain school volunteers who carry valid concealed handgun permits, and certain retired law enforcement officers, to be certified and trained by the Virginia Center for School Safety within the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) or the National Rifle Association in the storage, use and handling of a concealed handgun. The bill also outlines the training requirements for designated persons as designed by DCJS.

**HB 1730: Standards of Quality; full-time uniformed school resource officer. (Mark Cole)**

Requires each local school board to establish a collaborative agreement with local law-enforcement agencies to employ one full-time uniformed school resource officer in every school in the local school division.

**HB 2171: School safety audits; school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans (Delores L. McQuinn)**

Amends § 22.1-279.8 of the *Code of Virginia*, relating to school safety audits; school crisis, emergency management and medical emergency response plans. It requires each local school board to conduct a school safety audit and review its school crisis, emergency management and medical emergency response plans bimonthly. Current law requires these to be done annually.

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*Other Legislation under Consideration by the General Assembly*

**HB 1550: Gang-free zones; adds school bus stops to list of places. (Salvatore R. Iaquinto)**

This bill amends § 18.2-46.3:3 by adding school bus stops to the list of “gang-free zones,” thus increasing the punishment for gang activity taking place at or near the stops. This bill is similar to HB 287, which was offered by Delegate Iaquinto in the 2012 Session; that bill was left in Appropriations.

No impact to DCJS

**HB 1693: Firearms; removes specific exception for possession on public school property, penalty (Kaye Kory)**

Amends § 18.2-308.1, which prohibits possession of a firearm or other weapon on public school property. Violating the prohibition is a Class 6 felony. The section currently contains several exemptions, and the bill proposes to remove the exemption for a person who possesses an unloaded firearm in a closed container, or a knife, in a motor vehicle located at any public school, or an unloaded shotgun or rifle in a firearms rack in a motor vehicle located at any public school.

**HB 2244: School Resource Officer Grants Program and Fund. (Lionell Spruill, Sr)**

Provides that proceeds of the School Resource Officer Grants Fund may be disbursed to award matching grants to local law-enforcement agencies and local school boards that have established a collaborative agreement to employ school resource officers in elementary schools within their shared district. Under current law, funds may be disbursed only when school resource officers are employed in middle or high schools within the district.

**HB 2277: School Security Officers. (C. Todd Gilbert)**

Would amend and reenact §§ 9.1-101, 9.1-102, 9.1-110, 9.1-184, 18.2-57, 18.2-308.1, and 51.1-155 of the Code of Virginia, relating to school safety officers and school security officers. This bill provides that school security officers shall be retired law-enforcement officers or persons who have been certified as a law-enforcement officer within the previous five years of employment as a school security officer. Such officers would be employed by local law-enforcement agencies to provide armed security services to any Virginia public elementary or secondary school. The bill also provides that school security officers shall be trained and certified by the Virginia Center for School Safety in accordance with minimum training standards developed by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. Finally, the bill includes school security officers within the School Resource Officer and School Security Officer Grants Program and Incentive Grants Fund.

**HB 2287: Mental health first aid training plan; local school board complete development of by July 1, 2014. (K. Rob Krupicka)**

Requires each local school board, in conjunction with a local community services board located in the local school division, to seek to complete development of a mental health first aid training plan by July 1, 2014, whereby each teacher in the local school division would be required to participate in a 12-hour interactive course initially provided by community services board staff members on the risk factors, warning signs, symptoms, and treatment of depression, anxiety disorders, trauma, psychotic disorders, eating disorders, and substance use disorders.

**HB 2322: State Board for Community Colleges; mental health policies. (Scott A. Surovell)**

Requires the State Board for Community Colleges to develop a mental health referral policy that would require community colleges to designate at least one individual at each college to serve as a point of contact with an emergency services system clinician at a local community services board, or another qualified mental health services provider, for screenings and referrals of students who may have emergency or urgent mental health needs.

**HB 2337: Public schools; school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans; parent involvement. (Kaye Kory)**

Directs each local school board to hold and require the parents of each student in the local school division to attend an informational session no later than August 31 of each year at which the school board shall distribute and present an overview of the school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan. The bill requires each parent to sign a form to certify that he attended the informational session and received a copy of the plan.

**SB 940: School resource officers; school board to coordinate with local law-enforcement agency to provide. (Richard H. Stuart)- merged with SB1240**

The *Code of Virginia* is amended by adding § 22.1-279.10, which would require every school board throughout the Commonwealth to coordinate with the local law enforcement agency to provide at least one School Resource Officer for every public elementary, middle and high school within the district. The bill provides that funding for these School Resource Officers shall be provided through the general appropriation act and not by any locality or school board.

**SB 1240: School resource officers; local law-enforcement agencies to provide. (R. Creigh Deeds)- merged with SB940**

This bill would add § 22.1-279.10, to require all school boards to coordinate with their local law enforcement agencies to provide at least one School Resource Officer for every public elementary school within their districts. The bill provides that funding for these School Resource Officers shall be provided through the general appropriation act and not by any locality or school board.

**SB 1342: Higher education; mental health treatment coordination. (J. Chapman Petersen)**

Requires the governing board of each public four-year institution of higher education to establish a written memorandum of understanding with its local community services board or behavioral health authority and with local hospitals and other local mental health facilities in order to expand the scope of services available to students seeking treatment. The bill requires the memorandum to designate a contact person to be notified when a student is involuntarily committed, or when a student is discharged from a facility and consents to such notification. The bill also requires the memorandum to include the institution in the post-discharge planning of a student who has been committed and intends to return to campus, to the extent allowable under state and federal privacy laws.