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Short Title: School Safety Omnibus.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 14, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THAT SCHOOL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CLARIFY THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE CENTER FOR SAFER SCHOOLS, REQUIRE THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS BE ESTABLISHED AT EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL AND CODIFY THE DUTIES OF THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS, REQUIRE LME/MCOS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS REFERRED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, REQUIRE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS AT ALL SCHOOLS WITH GRADES SIX AND HIGHER, REQUIRE REPORTING ON THE OPERATIONAL STATUS OF ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS DURING STATES OF EMERGENCY, DEFINE THE TERM "SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER" AND REQUIRE TRAINING FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS, AND REQUIRE ANNUAL VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**PART I. REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL SAFETY FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-5 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(11) Public school unit. – Any of the following:

- a. A local school administrative unit.
- b. A charter school.
- c. A regional school.
- d. A school providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by one of the following:
  1. The State Board of Education, including schools operated under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter.
  2. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated under Articles 4, 29, and 29A of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes."

**SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.46, 115C-105.47A, and 115C-105.48 are codified into Part 1 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, Local Plans for Alternative Schools/Alternative Learning Programs and Maintaining Safe and Orderly Schools. Part 1 shall be entitled "Local Plans for Alternative Schools/Alternative Learning Programs." The remaining



1 sections of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes shall be codified into Part 2, which  
2 shall be entitled "Maintaining Safe and Orderly Schools."

3 **SECTION 1.(c)** G.S. 115C-105.49 reads as rewritten:

4 **"§ 115C-105.49. School safety exercises.**

5 (a) At least once annually, each ~~local school administrative~~ public school unit shall  
6 require each school under its control to hold a full school-wide tabletop exercise and drill based  
7 on the procedures documented in its School Risk Management Plan ~~(SRMP)~~ (SRMP) and shall  
8 report the date and time the drill is conducted to the Center for Safer Schools. The drill shall  
9 include a practice school lockdown due to an intruder on school grounds. Each school is  
10 encouraged to hold a tabletop exercise and drill for multiple hazards included in its SRMP.  
11 Schools are strongly encouraged to include local law enforcement agencies and emergency  
12 management agencies in their tabletop exercises and drills. The purpose of the tabletop exercises  
13 and drills shall be to permit participants to (i) discuss simulated emergency situations in a  
14 low-stress environment, (ii) clarify their roles and responsibilities and the overall logistics of  
15 dealing with an emergency, and (iii) identify areas in which the SRMP needs to be modified.

16 ...

17 (d) The Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, and the  
18 Center for Safer Schools shall provide guidance and recommendations to ~~local school~~  
19 ~~administrative~~ public school units on the types of multiple hazards to plan and respond to,  
20 including intruders on school grounds."

21 **SECTION 1.(d)** G.S. 115C-105.49A(b) reads as rewritten:

22 "(b) In constructing the SRRMS, the Division of Emergency Management and the Center  
23 for Safer Schools shall leverage the existing enterprise risk management database, the School  
24 Risk Management Planning tool managed by the Division. The Division shall also leverage the  
25 ~~local school administrative~~ public school unit and participating nonpublic school schematic  
26 diagrams of school facilities. Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any  
27 anonymous tip lines established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.51 and any 911-initiated panic alarm  
28 systems authorized as part of a SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). The Division and the Center  
29 for Safer Schools shall collaborate with the Department of Public Instruction and the North  
30 Carolina 911 Board in the design, implementation, and maintenance of the SRRMS."

31 **SECTION 1.(e)** G.S. 115C-105.52 reads as rewritten:

32 **"§ 115C-105.52. School crisis kits.**

33 The Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety  
34 through the North Carolina Center for Safer Schools, may develop and adopt policies on the  
35 placement of school crisis kits in schools and on the contents of those kits. The kits should  
36 include, at a minimum, basic first-aid supplies, communications devices, and other items  
37 recommended by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

38 The principal of each school, in coordination with the law enforcement agencies that are part  
39 of the ~~local board of education's~~ public school unit's School Risk Management Plan, may place  
40 one or more crisis kits at appropriate locations in the school."

41 **SECTION 1.(f)** G.S. 115C-105.53 reads as rewritten:

42 **"§ 115C-105.53. Schematic diagrams and emergency access to school buildings for local  
43 law enforcement agencies.**

44 (a) Each ~~local school administrative~~ public school unit shall provide the following to  
45 local law enforcement agencies: (i) schematic diagrams, including digital schematic diagrams,  
46 and (ii) either keys to the main entrance of all school buildings or emergency access to key storage  
47 devices such as KNOX® boxes for all school buildings. ~~Local school administrative~~ Public  
48 school units shall provide updates of the schematic diagrams to local law enforcement agencies  
49 when substantial modifications such as new facilities or modifications to doors and windows are  
50 made to school buildings. ~~Local school administrative~~ Public school units shall also be  
51 responsible for providing local law enforcement agencies with updated access to school buildings

1 when changes are made to the locks of the main entrances or to key storage devices such as  
2 KNOX® boxes.

3 (b) The Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Department of Public  
4 Safety, shall develop standards and guidelines for the preparation and content of schematic  
5 diagrams and necessary updates. ~~Local school administrative~~ Public school units and  
6 participating nonpublic schools may use these standards and guidelines to assist in the  
7 preparation of their schematic diagrams.

8 ...."

9 **SECTION 1.(g)** G.S. 115C-105.54(a) reads as rewritten:

10 "(a) Each ~~local school administrative~~ public school unit shall provide the following to the  
11 Division of Emergency Management (Division) at the Department of Public Safety: (i) schematic  
12 diagrams, including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response information  
13 requested by the Division for the School Risk Management Plan (SRMP). ~~Local school~~  
14 ~~administrative~~ Public school units shall also provide updated schematic diagrams and emergency  
15 response information to the Division when such updates are made. The Division shall ensure that  
16 the diagrams and emergency response information are securely stored and distributed as provided  
17 in the SRMP to first responders, emergency personnel, and school personnel and approved by  
18 the Department of Public Instruction."

19 **SECTION 1.(h)** G.S. 115C-218.75(b), (d), and (e) are repealed.

20 **SECTION 1.(i)** G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

21 "(g) Each charter school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of Article  
22 8C of this Chapter."

23 **SECTION 1.(j)** G.S. 115C-238.66(7a), (7b), (7c), and (7d) are repealed.

24 **SECTION 1.(k)** G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

25 "(14) Each regional school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2  
26 of Article 8C of this Chapter."

27 **SECTION 1.(l)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(10), (11), (12), and (13) are repealed.

28 **SECTION 1.(m)** G.S. 116-239.8(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

29 "(17) Laboratory schools shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of  
30 Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

31 **SECTION 1.(n)** G.S. 115C-75.9 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

32 "(h1) School Safety. – Innovative schools shall comply with the applicable requirements of  
33 Part 2 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

34 **SECTION 1.(o)** Article 9C of Chapter 115C is amended by adding a new section to  
35 read:

36 "**§ 115C-150.16. School safety.**

37 A school governed by this Article shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of  
38 Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

39 **SECTION 1.(p)** Article 4 of Chapter 116 is amended by adding a new section to  
40 read:

41 "**§ 116-69.2. School safety.**

42 The school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2 of Article 8C of Chapter  
43 115C of the General Statutes."

44 **SECTION 1.(q)** G.S. 116-235 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

45 "(j) School Safety. – The school shall comply with the applicable requirements of Part 2  
46 of Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes."

47 **SECTION 1.(r)** G.S. 115C-551 reads as rewritten:

48 "**§ 115C-551. Voluntary participation in the State programs.**

49 (a) Any ~~sueh~~ private church school or school of religious charter may, on a voluntary  
50 basis, participate in any State operated or sponsored program which would otherwise be available

1 to such school, including but not limited to the high school competency testing and statewide  
2 testing programs.

3 (b) All private church schools and all schools of religious charter are encouraged to do  
4 the following:

- 5 (1) School Risk Management Plan. – In coordination with local law enforcement  
6 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents  
7 of school violence. In constructing and maintaining these plans, the school  
8 may utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)  
9 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not considered a  
10 public record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall  
11 not be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6.
- 12 (2) Schematic diagrams and school crisis kits. – Provide schematic diagrams and  
13 keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law enforcement  
14 agencies, in addition to implementing the provisions in G.S. 115C-105.52.
- 15 (3) School safety exercises. – At least once a year, hold a full school-wide  
16 lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and emergency management  
17 agencies that are part of the private school's SRMP.
- 18 (4) Safety information provided to the Department of Public Safety, Division of  
19 Emergency Management. – Provide the following: (i) schematic diagrams,  
20 including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response  
21 information requested by the Division for the SRMP. The schematic diagrams  
22 and emergency response information are not considered public records as the  
23 term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not be subject to  
24 inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

25 **SECTION 1.(s) G.S. 115C-559 reads as rewritten:**

26 **"§ 115C-559. Voluntary participation in the State programs.**

27 (a) Any such-qualified nonpublic school may, on a voluntary basis, participate in any  
28 State operated or sponsored program which would otherwise be available to such school,  
29 including but not limited to the high school competency testing and statewide testing programs.

30 (b) All qualified nonpublic schools are encouraged to do the following:

- 31 (1) School Risk Management Plan. – In coordination with local law enforcement  
32 agencies, adopt a School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) relating to incidents  
33 of school violence. In constructing and maintaining these plans, the school  
34 may utilize the School Risk and Response Management System (SRRMS)  
35 established pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.49A. These plans are not considered a  
36 public record as the term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall  
37 not be subject to inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6.
- 38 (2) Schematic diagrams and school crisis kits. – Provide schematic diagrams and  
39 keys to the main entrance of school facilities to local law enforcement  
40 agencies, in addition to implementing the provisions in G.S. 115C-105.52.
- 41 (3) School safety exercises. – At least once a year, hold a full school-wide  
42 lockdown exercise with local law enforcement and emergency management  
43 agencies that are part of the private school's SRMP.
- 44 (4) Safety information provided to the Department of Public Safety, Division of  
45 Emergency Management. – Provide the following: (i) schematic diagrams,  
46 including digital schematic diagrams, and (ii) emergency response  
47 information requested by the Division for the SRMP. The schematic diagrams  
48 and emergency response information are not considered public records as the  
49 term "public record" is defined under G.S. 132-1 and shall not be subject to  
50 inspection and examination under G.S. 132-6."

1           **SECTION 1.(t)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning  
2 with the 2019-2020 school year.

3  
4 **PART II. CLARIFY THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE CENTER FOR SAFER**  
5 **SCHOOLS**

6           **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-105.57 reads as rewritten:

7 **"§ 115C-105.57. Center for Safer Schools.**

8           (a) Center for Safer Schools Established. – There is established the Center for Safer  
9 Schools. The Center for Safer Schools shall be administratively located in the Department of  
10 Public Instruction. The Center for Safer Schools shall consist of an ~~executive director~~ Executive  
11 Director appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and such other professional,  
12 administrative, technical, and clerical personnel as may be necessary to assist the Center for Safer  
13 Schools in carrying out its powers and duties.

14           (b) Executive Director. – The Executive Director shall report to and serve at the pleasure  
15 of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at a salary established by the Superintendent within  
16 the funds appropriated for this purpose.

17           (c) Powers and Duties. – The Center for Safer Schools shall have the following duties,  
18 and all other powers and duties provided in this Article.

- 19           (1) Serve as a resource and referral center for the State by conducting research,  
20 sponsoring workshops, and providing information regarding current school  
21 safety concerns.
- 22           (2) Provide training and professional development for public school personnel in  
23 the development and implementation of initiatives promoting school safety.
- 24           (3) Maintain and disseminate information to public schools on effective school  
25 safety initiatives in North Carolina and across the nation.
- 26           (4) Collect, analyze, and disseminate various North Carolina school safety data.
- 27           (5) Provide technical and instructional assistance to facilitate the development of  
28 partnerships between the public and private sectors to promote school safety  
29 in North Carolina.
- 30           (6) Recommend a system of accountability to the General Assembly to document  
31 school safety exercises, including practice school lockdowns, required by  
32 G.S. 115C-105.49.
- 33           (7) Develop policies for threat assessment teams for public school units in  
34 consultation with the Task Force for Safer Schools, Disability Rights North  
35 Carolina, the State Bureau of Investigation, and relevant State government  
36 agencies. These policies shall not reference or reveal any information that has  
37 been excluded as a public record under G.S. 115C-47(40), Part 2 of Article  
38 8C of this Chapter, or any other relevant statute. These policies shall include  
39 at a minimum procedures for all of the following:
- 40           a. Assessment of and intervention with a student whose behavior poses  
41 a risk to the safety of school staff or students.
- 42           b. Involvement of the student's parent or legal guardian throughout the  
43 threat assessment process.
- 44           c. Referral to LME/MCOs, as provided in G.S. 122C-115.4(b)(9), for  
45 evaluation or treatment, when appropriate.
- 46           d. Compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act  
47 (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, the Individuals with Disabilities  
48 Education Act (IDEA), 29 U.S.C. § 1400, et seq., and Article 9 of  
49 Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

- 1           (8)   Assist law enforcement officers assigned to schools and their agencies in  
2           active shooter response drills and other pertinent school safety-related  
3           training.
- 4           (9)   Collaborate with the North Carolina Justice Academy, the North Carolina  
5           Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission, and the  
6           North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission to  
7           establish and maintain updated training curriculum for school resource  
8           officers.
- 9           (10) Coordinate grants for school resource officers in elementary and middle  
10          schools and ensure that training requirements for school resource officers  
11          funded by those grants are met.
- 12          (11) Provide technical assistance to public school units in the development and  
13          implementation of initiatives promoting school safety.
- 14          (d)   Agency Cooperation. – All State agencies and departments shall cooperate with the  
15          Center for Safer Schools in carrying out its powers and duties, as necessary, in accordance with  
16          this Article. The Center of Safer Schools shall coordinate, collaborate, and seek information as  
17          necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities from State and local government agencies,  
18          who shall provide information upon request to the Center. These agencies include the following:
- 19               (1)   Department of Public Safety.  
20               (2)   Department of Health and Human Services.  
21               (3)   Department of Public Instruction.  
22               (4)   North Carolina Justice Academy.  
23               (5)   Governor's Crime Commission.  
24               (6)   State Bureau of Investigation Fusion Center, Information Sharing, and  
25               Analysis Center.  
26               (7)   Governing bodies of public school units.  
27               (8)   Local law enforcement agencies.
- 28          (e)   Task Force Guidance. – The Center of Safer Schools shall receive guidance and  
29          advice from the Task Force for Safer Schools."

30               **SECTION 2.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law. Policies for threat  
31          assessment teams required by G.S. 115C-105.57(c)(7), as enacted by this act, shall be developed  
32          by the Center for Safer Schools no later than December 31, 2019.

### 33 34 **PART III. THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS**

35               **SECTION 3.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by  
36          adding a new section to read:

#### 37 **"§ 115C-105.60. Threat assessment teams.**

38          (a)   Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this section:

- 39               (1)   Superintendent. – The superintendent or, if there is no superintendent, the staff  
40               member with the highest decision-making authority.
- 41               (2)   Threat. – A concerning communication or behavior that indicates that an  
42               individual may pose a danger to the safety of school staff or students through  
43               acts of violence or other behavior that would cause harm to self or others. A  
44               threat may be expressed or communicated behaviorally, orally, visually, in  
45               writing, electronically, or through any other means, and may be considered a  
46               threat regardless of whether it is observed by or communicated directly to the  
47               target of the threat or observed by or communicated to a third party, and  
48               regardless of whether the target of the threat is aware of the threat.
- 49               (3)   Threat assessment. – A fact-based process emphasizing an appraisal of  
50               observed, or reasonably observable, behaviors to identify potentially

1 dangerous or violent situations, to assess them, and to manage or address  
2 them.

3 (4) Threat assessment team. – A team that includes persons with expertise in  
4 counseling, instruction, school administration, and law enforcement that  
5 conducts threat assessments in a public school unit when a threat has been  
6 communicated. When practicable, at least one member of a threat assessment  
7 team shall be a school psychologist, or if a school psychologist is not  
8 available, a psychologist or psychiatrist. Members of a threat assessment team  
9 who are not employees of the public school unit may review student records  
10 as provided in 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B) pursuant to a written agreement  
11 with the public school unit of the requirements and responsibilities for use of  
12 student records under the federal Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act.

13 (b) The governing body of the public school unit shall adopt at a minimum the policies  
14 developed by the Center for Safer Schools, in accordance with G.S. 115C-105.57(c)(7), for the  
15 establishment of threat assessment teams, including the conduct of threat assessments and  
16 intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a risk to the safety of school staff or  
17 students. These policies shall not reference or reveal any information that has been excluded as  
18 a public record under G.S. 115C-47(40), Part 2 of Article 8C of this Chapter, or any other relevant  
19 statute.

20 (c) The superintendent or designee may establish a committee charged with coordination  
21 and monitoring of the threat assessment teams operating within the unit, which may be an existing  
22 committee established by the unit. If a committee is established, the committee shall include  
23 individuals with expertise in human resources, education, school administration, mental health,  
24 and law enforcement.

25 (d) Each school in the public school unit shall have a threat assessment team established  
26 by the superintendent. In the discretion of the superintendent, an established threat assessment  
27 team may serve more than one school in the unit. Each team shall do the following:

28 (1) Provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding recognition of  
29 threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a risk to the community,  
30 school, or self.

31 (2) When a threat has been communicated, conduct threat assessments to  
32 determine appropriate actions and intervention based on the level of risk  
33 determined by the assessment. A threat assessment team shall determine the  
34 level of risk posed by an individual or situation as follows:

35 a. Low risk. – The individual or situation does not appear to pose a risk  
36 of violence or serious harm to self or others and any exhibited issues  
37 or concerns can be resolved easily.

38 b. Moderate risk. – The individual or situation does not appear to pose a  
39 risk of violence or serious harm to self or others, at this time, but  
40 exhibits behaviors that indicate a continuing intent and potential for  
41 future violence or serious harm to self or others or exhibits other  
42 concerning behavior that requires intervention.

43 c. High risk. – The individual or situation appears to pose a risk of  
44 violence or serious harm to self or others, exhibiting behaviors that  
45 indicate both a continuing intent to harm and efforts to acquire the  
46 capacity to carry out the plan, and may also exhibit other concerning  
47 behavior that requires intervention.

48 d. Imminent risk. – The individual or situation appears to pose a clear  
49 and immediate risk of serious violence toward others that requires  
50 containment and action to protect identified or identifiable target or

- 1 targets and may also exhibit other concerning behavior that requires  
2 intervention.
- 3 (3) Identify members of the school community to whom threats should be  
4 reported.
- 5 (4) Implement policies adopted by the governing body of the public school unit  
6 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.
- 7 (5) Utilize anonymous reporting applications for students to receive information  
8 about school safety concerns requiring investigation.
- 9 (e) Upon a determination that an individual poses a high risk or imminent risk of violence  
10 or physical harm to self or others, a threat assessment team shall immediately report its  
11 determination to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, who shall respond as  
12 follows:
- 13 (1) The superintendent or designee shall immediately attempt to notify the  
14 student's parent or legal guardian. The superintendent may delegate the  
15 responsibility for notification to the principal of the school and may require  
16 notice be made to the principal directly.
- 17 (2) In the case of an imminent-risk threat determined to be an emergency by the  
18 superintendent or designee under the standards established by the Family  
19 Educational and Privacy Rights Act in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(I), the  
20 superintendent or designee shall provide notice to individuals who are the  
21 subject of the threat and, if a student is the subject of a threat, the  
22 superintendent or designee shall provide notice to the student's parent or legal  
23 guardian. All notices shall be in accordance with the Family Educational and  
24 Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g. The superintendent may delegate the  
25 responsibility for notification to the principal of the school and may require  
26 notice be made to the principal directly.
- 27 (3) In the case of an imminent-risk threat, the superintendent or designee shall  
28 immediately notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency. In the case  
29 of a high-risk threat, the superintendent or designee shall notify the  
30 appropriate local law enforcement agency when recommended by the threat  
31 assessment team.
- 32 (4) When the threat assessment team makes a recommendation that the student be  
33 referred for mental health services, the superintendent or designee shall notify  
34 the student's parent or legal guardian of all of the following information:
- 35 a. That the threat assessment team has recommended that the student be  
36 referred for mental health services.
- 37 b. That if the student is covered by private insurance or a Medicaid  
38 prepaid health plan, then the parent or guardian is encouraged to  
39 contact the student's primary care provider or insurance company.
- 40 c. That if the student is uninsured or is covered by Medicaid and not  
41 enrolled in a prepaid health plan, then the parent or guardian is  
42 encouraged to contact the local management entity/managed care  
43 organization that serves the catchment area where the student resides.
- 44 d. That with the parent or legal guardian's consent, if the student is  
45 uninsured or is covered by Medicaid and not enrolled in a prepaid  
46 health plan, then the superintendent or designee shall make a referral  
47 that includes the parent or guardian's contact information to the local  
48 management entity/managed care organization that serves the  
49 catchment area where the student resides.
- 50 (5) The superintendent or designee shall comply with the requirements of Article  
51 27 of this Chapter for any student discipline actions.



1 Nothing in this subsection shall preclude public school personnel from acting immediately to  
2 address an imminent-risk threat.

3 (f) Each threat assessment team established pursuant to this section shall report  
4 quantitative data on its activities to the Center for Safer Schools according to guidance developed  
5 by the Center. Such data shall include, at a minimum, the following:

6 (1) Number of threat assessments conducted annually and demographic  
7 information on subjects of those assessments.

8 (2) Number of threat assessments that resulted in a determination that the  
9 individual being assessed was a high-risk or imminent-risk threat and  
10 demographic information on those individuals.

11 (3) Types of actions taken in response to a determination that the individual being  
12 assessed was a high-risk or imminent-risk threat.

13 (4) Results of actions taken in response to determination that the individual being  
14 assessed was a high-risk or imminent-risk threat.

15 (g) Upon a determination by the threat assessment team that an individual poses an  
16 imminent-risk threat, a threat assessment team may obtain the following:

17 (1) Health records. – Notwithstanding G.S. 8-53 or any other provision of law, a  
18 health care provider may disclose protected health information related to an  
19 imminent-risk threat to the health or safety of school staff or students to a  
20 member of a threat assessment team who is a school nurse, school  
21 psychologist, or other licensed health or licensed mental health professional.  
22 The member of the threat assessment team who receives the health records  
23 shall provide an explanation of the health records when sharing those records  
24 with the remainder of the threat assessment team.

25 (2) Criminal records. – A threat assessment team may obtain criminal history as  
26 provided in G.S. 143B-931A. For a threat assessment of a student with  
27 juvenile records, the threat assessment team shall have access to written  
28 notifications received pursuant to G.S. 7B-3101 and information gained from  
29 examination of juvenile records in accordance with G.S. 7B-3100, held  
30 pursuant to G.S. 115C-404. Records held pursuant to G.S. 115C-404 shall be  
31 returned to the principal following review by the threat assessment team.

32 Any information shared among members of the threat assessment team pursuant to this  
33 subsection shall remain confidential, shall not be a public record subject to Chapter 132 of the  
34 General Statutes, and shall only be released in connection with an emergency under the standards  
35 established by the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(I).

36 (h) No governing body of a public school unit, nor its members, employees, designees,  
37 agents, or volunteers, shall be liable in civil damages to any party for any loss or damage caused  
38 by any act or omission relating to the participation in or implementation of any component of the  
39 threat assessment team policies required by this section, unless that act or omission amounts to  
40 gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing. Nothing in this section shall be  
41 construed to impose any specific duty of care or standard of care."

42 **SECTION 3.(b)** Article 13 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by  
43 adding a new section to read:

44 **"§ 143B-931.1. Criminal records checks for threat assessment teams.**

45 The Department of Public Safety may provide a criminal record check to the members of a  
46 threat assessment team established by the governing body of a public school unit, as defined in  
47 G.S. 115C-5(11), pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.60 for the purpose of administering criminal justice  
48 in assessing or intervening when a determination has been made that an individual poses an  
49 imminent-risk threat to school safety. No member of a threat assessment team shall redisclose  
50 any criminal history record information obtained pursuant to this section or otherwise use any

1 record of an individual beyond the purpose that such disclosure was made to the threat assessment  
2 team."

3 **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 115C-47 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

4 "(64) Peer-to-peer student support programs. – Local boards of education shall  
5 require peer-to-peer student support programs be established at all schools  
6 with grades six and higher and are encouraged to implement peer-to-peer  
7 student support programs as appropriate in other grades."

8 **SECTION 3.(d)** G.S. 115C-316.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 "(c) School counselors, as part of the direct services provided in subsection (a) of this  
10 section, shall coordinate and provide training for students in peer-to-peer student support  
11 programs that address areas such as conflict resolution, general health and wellness, and  
12 mentoring. The Center for Safer Schools will support school counselors in the administration and  
13 delivery of peer-to-peer student support programs."

14 **SECTION 3.(e)** G.S. 122C-115.4(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to  
15 read:

16 "(9) Each LME/MCO shall receive referrals from school superintendents or  
17 designees in accordance with G.S. 115C-105.60(e)(4)d. related to students  
18 who are uninsured or are covered by Medicaid and not enrolled in a prepaid  
19 health plan residing in the LME/MCO's catchment area. Within ten calendar  
20 days after receipt of a referral, the LME/MCO shall contact the student's  
21 parent or legal guardian using the information provided on the referral and  
22 shall provide assistance with identifying appropriate existing mental health  
23 resources available to the student. The assistance shall include identifying  
24 sources of funding to assist with the cost of mental health services as well as  
25 providing referrals to appropriate mental health service providers and mental  
26 health services."

27 **SECTION 3.(f)** This section is effective when it becomes law. All public school  
28 units, as defined in G.S. 115C-5(11), as enacted by subsection (a) of Section 1 of this act, shall  
29 establish policies and threat assessment teams as required by G.S. 115C-105.60, as enacted by  
30 this act, no later than March 1, 2020. Sections 3(c) and 3(d) apply beginning with the 2020-2021  
31 school year. All local boards of education are encouraged to have peer-to-peer student support  
32 programs by the 2019-2020 school year. The remainder of this section applies beginning with  
33 the 2019-2020 school year.

#### 34 **PART IV. STATE OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONAL STATUS REPORTING**

35 **SECTION 4.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by  
36 adding a new section to read:

37 **"§ 115C-105.50. State of emergency operational reports.**

38 (a) For purposes of this section, the term "countywide state of emergency" means a state  
39 of emergency with a defined area covering the entirety of the jurisdiction of a county declared  
40 by any of the following:

41 (1) The President of the United States, under the Stafford Act (P.L. 93-288).

42 (2) The General Assembly, under G.S. 166A-19.20.

43 (3) The Governor, under G.S. 166A-19.20.

44 (4) The governing body of a county, under G.S. 166A-19.22.

45 (b) In the event of a countywide state of emergency, each public school unit in the county  
46 under the state of emergency shall report the operational status of all schools in the unit's  
47 jurisdiction to the local board of county commissioners or designee as long as the countywide  
48 state of emergency is in place."

49 **SECTION 4.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning  
50 with the 2019-2020 school year.  
51

1  
2 **PART V. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINED/TRAINING**  
3 **STANDARDS/REPORTS**

4 **SECTION 5.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by  
5 adding a new section to read:

6 **"§ 115C-105.70. School resource officer.**

7 (a) A school resource officer is any law enforcement officer assigned to one or more  
8 public schools within a public school unit, at least 20 hours per week, to assist with all of the  
9 following, consistent with any written memorandum of understanding between the public school  
10 unit and the law enforcement agency governing the school resource officer:

11 (1) School safety.

12 (2) School security.

13 (3) Emergency preparedness.

14 (4) Emergency response.

15 (5) Any additional responsibilities related to school safety or security assigned by  
16 the officer's employer while the officer is acting as a school resource officer.

17 (b) All school resource officers must comply with any continuing education training  
18 requirements, as established by subsection (c) of this section. A law enforcement officer who did  
19 not serve as a school resource officer during the 2019-2020 school year shall also complete the  
20 initial training as established by subsection (c) of this section.

21 (c) The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission  
22 and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission, in collaboration  
23 with the Center for Safer Schools and the Department of Health and Human Services, Division  
24 of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse, shall establish initial  
25 training and continuing education standards for school resource officers. These standards shall,  
26 at a minimum, include training on the following topics: mental health, students with disabilities,  
27 racial equity, and crisis intervention and de-escalation."

28 **SECTION 5.(b)** G.S. 17C-6(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

29 "(19) Establish initial training and continuing education training standards for  
30 school resource officers, as set forth in G.S. 115C-105.70."

31 **SECTION 5.(c)** G.S. 17E-4(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

32 "(17) Establish initial training and continuing education training standards for  
33 school resource officers, as set forth in G.S. 115C-105.70."

34 **SECTION 5.(d)** The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training  
35 Standards Commission and the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards  
36 Commission, in collaboration with the Center for Safer Schools and the Department of Health  
37 and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance  
38 Abuse, shall establish initial training standards for school resource officers no later than January  
39 15, 2020.

40 **SECTION 5.(e)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by  
41 adding a new section to read:

42 **"§ 115C-105.71. School resource officer reports.**

43 (a) Each public school unit shall report by September 15, 2019, and annually thereafter,  
44 in writing to the Center for Safer Schools the number of school resource officers and the  
45 placement of each school resource officer in the public school unit. This report shall include the  
46 source of funding and method of employment for each school resource officer position.

47 (b) The Center for Safer Schools shall report by November 15, 2019, and annually  
48 thereafter, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee an executive summary and  
49 the disaggregated data for each public school unit regarding the information reported by public  
50 school units pursuant to subsection (a) of this section."

1           **SECTION 5.(f)** Subsection (a) of this section is effective when it becomes law and  
2 applies to school resource officers employed beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. The  
3 remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law.  
4

## 5 **PART VI. SCHOOL BUILDING VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT**

6           **SECTION 6.(a)** Article 8C of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by  
7 adding a new section to read:

### 8 **"§ 115C-105.52A. Facility vulnerability assessments.**

9           (a) At least once annually, each governing body of a public school unit shall require each  
10 school under its control to complete a facility vulnerability assessment for each school building.

11           (b) The Center for Safer Schools, in collaboration with the Department of Public  
12 Instruction, Division of School Operations, shall develop a facility vulnerability assessment tool.  
13 This tool shall be in the form of a checklist designed to assess the potential vulnerabilities arising  
14 from day-to-day policies and procedures in the operation of school buildings. This tool shall be  
15 used by public school units when completing a facility vulnerability assessment.

16           (c) No governing body of a public school unit, nor its members, employees, designees,  
17 agents, or volunteers, shall be liable in civil damages to any party for any loss or damage caused  
18 by any act or omission relating to the participation in or implementation of a facility vulnerability  
19 assessment required by this section, unless that act or omission amounts to gross negligence,  
20 wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing. Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose  
21 any specific duty of care or standard of care."

22           **SECTION 6.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.49A(b), as amended by Section 1(d) of this act,  
23 reads as rewritten:

24           "(b) In constructing the SRRMS, the Division of Emergency Management and the Center  
25 for Safer Schools shall leverage the existing enterprise risk management database, the School  
26 Risk Management Planning tool managed by the Division. The Division shall also leverage the  
27 public school unit and participating nonpublic school schematic diagrams of school facilities.  
28 Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any anonymous tip lines established  
29 pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.51 and any 911-initiated panic alarm systems authorized as part of a  
30 SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-47(40). Where technically feasible, the SRRMS shall integrate any  
31 facility vulnerability assessments as part of an SRMP pursuant to G.S. 115C-105.52A. The  
32 Division and the Center for Safer Schools shall collaborate with the Department of Public  
33 Instruction and the North Carolina 911 Board in the design, implementation, and maintenance of  
34 the SRRMS."

35           **SECTION 6.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law. The Center for Safer  
36 Schools and the Department of Public Instruction shall develop the facility vulnerability  
37 assessment tool by January 15, 2020. Each governing body of a public school unit shall require  
38 each school under its control to complete a facility vulnerability assessment for each school  
39 building before the end of the 2019-2020 school year and annually thereafter.  
40

## 41 **PART VII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

42           **SECTION 7.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes  
43 law.