ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Fifty-sixth Legislature Second Regular Session

HB 2574: school safety software; appropriation Sponsor: Representative Biasiucci, LD 30 Committee on Military Affairs & Public Safety

Overview

Appropriates \$7,000,000 in FY 2025 and \$5,000,000 in FY 2026 to establish a statewide connected behavioral threat assessment and management platform (Assessment Platform) to identify potential threats to schools.

History

The Secret Service developed <u>threat assessments</u> to deal with people who threaten to attack public officials and analyze certain dangerous situations. Threat assessments are conducted when people threaten to commit a violent act or engage in behavior that appears to threaten targeted violence. Threat assessments are a process of evaluating the threat — and the circumstances surrounding the threat — to uncover any facts or evidence that indicate a threat is likely to be carried out.

The University of Virginia developed the <u>Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines</u> (CSTAG) for schools. CSTAG integrated recommendations from Federal Bureau of Investigation and Secret Service studies of school shootings with field-tested experiences from educators working in Virginia public schools. School-based threat assessments must be a flexible and efficient process that can quickly resolve threats that are not serious and concentrate efforts on the small number of serious threats. CSTAG outlines how to distinguish a transient threat (not serious) from a substantive threat (poses a continuing risk to others).

Provisions

- 1. Appropriates \$7,000,000 in FY 2025 and \$5,000,000 in FY 2026 from the State General Fund to the Department of Education to establish an Assessment Platform to identify potential threats to schools. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Specifies that the Assessment Platform must be centralized, web-based and hosted in a secure cloud environment while incorporating behavioral assessment best practices at least as stringent as CSTAG. (Sec. 1)
- 3. Exempts the appropriation from lapsing. (Sec. 1)

□ Prop 105 (45 votes)	□ Prop 108 (40 votes)	☐ Emergency (40 votes)	☐ Fiscal Note