

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0058S.01I  
 Bill No.: SB 42  
 Subject: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Emergencies; Firearms;  
 Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies; Department of Public Safety; Saint  
 Louis City; Saint Louis County  
 Type: Original  
 Date: January 31, 2025

Bill Summary: This proposal requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ensure that safety assessments are conducted on all public schools located in St. Louis City or St. Louis County.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
General Revenue*	(\$205,755) to (\$438,547)	(\$154,414) to (\$426,603)	(\$157,277) to (\$434,280)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$205,755) to (\$438,547)</b>	<b>(\$154,414) to (\$426,603)</b>	<b>(\$157,277) to (\$434,280)</b>

\*DESE requires 1 to 3 FTE and programming costs for ITSD to implement provisions of this proposal. **Oversight** assumes this could potentially exceed the \$250,000 threshold, depending on the determined amount of FTE's needed to provide specific recommendations to address the vulnerabilities identified.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
General Revenue	1 to 3 FTE	1 to 3 FTE	1 to 3 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>1 to 3 FTE</b>	<b>1 to 3 FTE</b>	<b>1 to 3 FTE</b>

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Local Government*</b>	<b>(\$1,365,000)</b>	<b>(\$1,365,000)</b>	<b>(\$1,365,000)</b>

\*Assumption for building safety assessments is based on an annual assessment (390 building assessments x \$3,500 per building = \$1,365,000).

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### Section 160.661- Annual safety assessments on all public schools and charter schools located in St. Louis City or St. Louis County.

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** state Section 160.661 outlines requirements for St. Louis City and St. Louis County public schools and public charter schools to complete safety assessments. DESE assumes public schools and public charter schools in St. Louis City and St. Louis County will be responsible for having annual safety assessments completed as outlined in the legislation. DESE assumes the school districts and charter schools will drive, organize and complete the assessment process for all school buildings they are responsible for. The survey results will be submitted to DESE on an annual basis and will require one – three FTE Directors with the associated expense and equipment to provide specific recommendations to address the vulnerabilities identified. The FTE required will depend on the results of the surveys, the vulnerabilities identified, and the scope of work in supporting public schools and public charter schools through the process. These FTE will also provide the reporting as required to the General Assembly.

Officials from **Office of Administration – Information Technology (OA-ITSD)** state DESE is a consolidated agency under OA-ITSD. It is assumed that all new IT project/systems will be bid out because all ITSD resources are at full capacity. Assuming DESE would need a new application, this project would have to be prioritized by DESE to be worked among DESE's other projects, if it passes.

OA-ITSD assumes DESE Office of Data Systems Management (ODSM) and DESE Data Governance will define all data elements needed to be captured, provide those to ITSD, which will be used to establish the database table(s) and fields. DESE ODSM will also collect any historical information in a standard data layout, that aligns with the database/fields they define, compile all data from all districts and charters.

The Web application functionality was assumed by ITSD since the legislation does not provide details in what functionality would be required in the web application. No additional functionality or reporting is assumed in this estimate. Should additions/enhancements to functionality be made by DESE, those efforts will require new estimates.

OA-ITSD states the project would take 851.04 hours at a contract rate of \$105 for a total cost of **\$89,359** with on-going support costs.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect estimated impact by DESE in the fiscal note.

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety – Director’s Office** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note.

**Oversight** notes in response to similar legislation, SS for SCS for SB 1153 (2025), DESE estimated the following for the cost of safety assessments assuming that the Department would be able to contract with outside agencies to conduct the assessment.

- 3-year rotating cycle = 2,403 buildings, one third assessed each year = 801 assessments each year
- Based on the estimate used by Center for Education Safety (CES) which is currently \$35,000 per building (CES currently refers local education agencies to an organization called Strategos at a cost of \$35,000 per building.)

801 building assessments x \$35,000 per building = **\$28,035,000**

Upon further inquiry with CES, Oversight was informed the safety assessments per building should have been \$3,500. DESE stated they spoke with Office of Quality Schools who provided the estimate last year. The safety assessments per building should have been \$3,500, however DESE reported costs of \$35,000 per building in error.

**Oversight** notes Section 160.661 requires the DESE to ensure that every public school and public charter school located in St. Louis City or St. Louis County conducts an annual safety assessment of such public school or public charter school. Oversight notes according to DESE, there are 24 districts with 283 buildings in St. Louis County and 18 districts with 107 buildings in St. Louis City.

**Oversight** assumes 390 building safety assessments will be performed annually at a cost of \$3,500 (Based on the estimate used by Center for Education Safety (CES)). Therefore, Oversight will reflect a total cost to schools of \$1,365,000 (390 building assessments x \$3,500 per building) in the fiscal note.

**Oversight** received no responses from school districts related to the fiscal impact of this proposal. Oversight has presented this fiscal note on the best current information available. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note. Oversight only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other school districts were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Costs – DESE/ITSD – programming</u> (§160.661) p.3	(\$89,359)	(\$18,319)	(\$18,777)
<u>Costs – DESE (§160.661) p.3</u>			
Personnel Service	(\$62,340) to (\$187,020)	(\$76,304) to (\$228,912)	(\$77,830) to (\$233,491)
Fringe Benefits	(\$38,146) to (\$114,438)	(\$46,375) to (\$139,124)	(\$46,986) to (\$140,959)
Expense & Equipment	(\$15,910) to (\$47,730)	(\$13,416) to (\$40,248)	(\$13,684) to (\$41,053)
<u>Total Costs – DESE (§160.661) p.3</u>	(\$116,396) to (\$349,188)	(\$136,095) to (\$408,284)	(\$138,500) to (\$415,503)
FTE Change	1 to 3 FTE	1 to 3 FTE	1 to 3 FTE
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b>(\$205,755) to (\$438,547)</b>	<b>(\$154,414) to (\$426,603)</b>	<b>(\$157,277) to (\$434,280)</b>
Estimated Net FTE Change on General Revenue	1 to 3 FTE	1 to 3 FTE	1 to 3 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>SCHOOL DISTRICTS &amp; CHARTER SCHOOLS</b>			
<u>Cost- annual building safety assessment</u> (§160.661) p.4	(\$1,365,000)	(\$1,365,000)	(\$1,365,000)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS &amp; CHARTER SCHOOLS</b>	<b>(\$1,365,000)</b>	<b>(\$1,365,000)</b>	<b>(\$1,365,000)</b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

### FISCAL DESCRIPTION

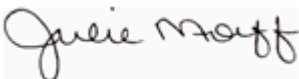
This act requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to ensure that every public school and public charter school located in St. Louis City or St. Louis County conducts an annual safety assessment of such public school or public charter school. The Department of Public Safety (DPS), local law enforcement, and local emergency services shall provide reasonable assistance to public schools and public charter schools in order to implement the provisions of the act. The safety assessments shall include a consideration of each school's vulnerabilities to school shootings and intruders, with specific reference to the implementation of various safety procedures, policies, and tools specified in the act.

Each public school and public charter school that conducts an annual safety assessment pursuant to the provisions of the act shall provide a report of the findings of the safety assessment to DESE. Based upon the findings of the safety assessments, DESE, in conjunction with DPS, shall provide to each public school and public charter school an annual report that summarizes such school's safety vulnerabilities, along with recommendations for mitigating such vulnerabilities. Such report shall also be provided to the General Assembly. A report created pursuant to the provisions of this act shall not be considered a public record under the Sunshine Law and shall not be available for public inspection.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Department of Public Safety – Director's Office



Julie Morff  
Director  
January 31, 2025



Jessica Harris  
Assistant Director  
January 31, 2025