

SENATE BILL 681

By Crowe

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5;
Title 6; Title 7; Title 8; Title 38 and Title 49, to
enact the "Safe Schools Act of 2013".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Safe Schools Act of 2013".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 42 , is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

49-6-42__.

(a) This subsection shall only apply to those municipalities or counties that, by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the governing body, choose to come under the provisions.

(1) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, and each school year thereafter, every public school, located within a municipality or county which acts pursuant to this subsection (a), shall employ at least one (1) school resource officer as defined in § 49-6-4202, the cost of which shall be borne by the department and by the municipal or county government. Any municipality or county may at any time, opt out of this section by passage of a resolution or ordinance by a two thirds (2/3) vote, as appropriate. Further, any such legislative bodies that have opted out may, at a later date, opt in by passage of a resolution or ordinance in the same manner required to opt out; provided, that two (2) years have passed since the municipality or country exercised the privilege to opt out.

(2) The municipal or county legislative body is authorized to establish a program to effectuate the purposes of this section; provided, that the chief of police or the county sheriff administers the operation of the program.

(b) This subsection shall only apply to those special school districts that, by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the school board, choose to come under the provisions:

(1) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, and each school year thereafter, every public school, located within a special school district which acts pursuant to this subsection (b), shall employ at least one (1) school resource officer as defined in § 49-6-4202, the cost of which shall be borne by the department and by the special school district. Any special school district may at any time, opt out of this section by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the school board. Any special school districts that have opted out may, at a later date, opt in by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the school board; provided, that two (2) years have passed since the school board exercised the privilege to opt out.

(2) The school board is authorized to establish a program to effectuate the purposes of this section; provided, that the chief of police or the county sheriff administers the operation of the program.

(c) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, all funds appropriated for the costs of the programs established under subsections (a) and (b) shall be allocated and credited for distribution through the programs in the same manner in which state funds for non-classroom components are allocated and distributed to LEAs through the BEP funding formula in effect for that fiscal year.

SECTION 3. The provisions of this act shall not be construed to be an appropriation of funds and no funds shall be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless such funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.