

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS AMENDMENTS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Sandra Hollins

Senate Sponsor: Daniel W. Thatcher

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions relating to a local education agency's ability to contract with a law enforcement agency for school resource officer services.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ amends provisions related to a training that statute requires the State Board of Education to prepare and make available, including:

- broadening the intended audience; and
- adding certain additional content; and

▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53G-8-702, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 408

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53G-8-702** is amended to read:

53G-8-702. School resource officer training -- Curriculum.

29 (1) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
30 state board shall make rules that prepare and make available a training program for school
31 principals, school personnel, and school resource officers to attend.

32 (2) To create the curriculum and materials for the training program described in
33 Subsection (1), the state board shall:

34 (a) work in conjunction with the State Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
35 created in Section [63M-7-201](#);

36 (b) solicit input from local school boards, charter school governing boards, and the
37 Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind;

38 (c) solicit input from local law enforcement and other interested community
39 stakeholders; and

40 (d) consider the current United States Department of Education recommendations on
41 school discipline and the role of a school resource officer.

42 (3) The training program described in Subsection (1) may include training on the
43 following:

44 (a) childhood and adolescent development;

45 (b) responding age-appropriately to students;

46 (c) working with disabled students;

47 (d) techniques to de-escalate and resolve conflict;

48 (e) cultural awareness;

49 (f) restorative justice practices;

50 (g) identifying a student exposed to violence or trauma and referring the student to
51 appropriate resources;

52 (h) student privacy rights;

53 (i) negative consequences associated with youth involvement in the juvenile and
54 criminal justice systems;

55 (j) strategies to reduce juvenile justice involvement; [~~and~~]

56 (k) roles of and distinctions between a school resource officer and other school staff
57 who help keep a school secure[-];

58 (l) developing and supporting successful relationships with students; and

59 (m) legal parameters of searching and questioning students on school property.

60 (4) The state board shall work together with the Department of Public Safety, the State
61 Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, and state and local law enforcement to establish
62 policies and procedures that govern [~~student~~] school resource officers.