

HOUSE BILL No. 5966

May 9, 2018, Introduced by Reps. Miller, Kosowski and Calley and referred to the Committee on Education Reform.

A bill to create and operate school safety related grant programs and student mental health related grant programs; to prescribe the duties of certain state agencies and certain state and local officials; to create certain funds; and to provide for the distribution of money.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "Michigan school safety grant act".

3 Sec. 3. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Department" means the department of education.

5 (b) "Intermediate school district" means that term as defined
6 in section 4 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.4.

7 (c) "Public school" means that term as defined in section 5 of
8 the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.5.

1 (d) "Public school academy" means that term as defined in
2 section 5 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.5.

3 (e) "Qualified school mental health professional" means a
4 school counselor, school psychologist, or school social worker.

5 (f) "School building" means any of the following:

6 (i) A building intended to be used to provide instruction for
7 pupils, including an addition to an existing building.

8 (ii) A recreational or athletic structure or field intended to
9 be used by pupils.

10 (g) "School counselor" means an individual who meets the
11 requirements to serve in a counseling role in a public school under
12 section 1233 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1233.

13 (h) "School district" means that term as defined in section 6
14 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.6.

15 (i) "School psychologist" means an individual who holds a
16 valid school psychologist certificate issued by the superintendent
17 of public instruction.

18 (j) "School resource officer" means an individual who is
19 licensed under the Michigan commission on law enforcement standards
20 act, 1965 PA 203, MCL 28.601 to 28.615, and who is responsible for
21 safety and crime prevention in a school.

22 (k) "School social worker" means an individual qualified to
23 serve in the role of a school social worker, as that role is
24 defined by the superintendent of public instruction.

25 (l) "Superintendent of public instruction" means the principal
26 executive officer of the department as provided under section 3 of
27 article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

1 Sec. 5. (1) The department shall establish and administer a
2 school resource officer grant program to assist school districts,
3 intermediate school districts, and public school academies to
4 contract for new or additional school resource officers.

5 (2) All of the following apply to the grant program
6 established under this section:

7 (a) The department shall establish eligibility requirements
8 for a grant under this section.

9 (b) Grants awarded under this section are for 3 fiscal years
10 and all grant funds awarded for that period of 3 fiscal years must
11 be distributed in 1 payment at the beginning of the school year in
12 which the grant is first awarded. The amount awarded for the second
13 year of grant funding must be equal to 67% of the amount awarded
14 for the first year of grant funding. The amount awarded for the
15 third year of grant funding must be equal to 33% of the amount
16 awarded for the first year of grant funding.

17 (c) Beginning July 1, 2018, a school district, intermediate
18 school district, or public school academy may apply for a grant
19 under this section, in a form and manner prescribed by the
20 department. An application for a grant under this section must
21 include a description of how the applicant plans to at least
22 sustain the level of school resource officers achieved with the
23 grant funding after the 3-year grant period ends.

24 (d) A school district, intermediate school district, or public
25 school academy that receives a grant under this section shall use
26 grant funds to contract with a law enforcement agency for 1 or more
27 new or additional school resource officers. Grant funds awarded

1 under this section must not be used to fund a school resource
2 officer employed or contracted for by a school district,
3 intermediate school district, or public school academy before the
4 award of a grant under this section.

5 (e) The department shall award grants under this section in an
6 amount sufficient to contract for new or additional school resource
7 officers for 3 fiscal years.

8 (f) The department shall give priority to applicants for
9 grants under this section as follows:

10 (i) First, to ensure that each school district employs or
11 contracts for at least 1 school resource officer.

12 (ii) Second, to ensure that there are sufficient school
13 resource officers to provide services to isolated or remote schools
14 and school districts.

15 (iii) Third, to ensure that there is at least 1 school
16 resource officer in each public school.

17 (iv) Fourth, to improve the ratio of students to school
18 resource officers in each public school.

19 (g) The department shall also give priority to applications
20 for projects that involve multiple agencies working in partnership.

21 (3) The department may retain an amount not to exceed 1% of
22 each grant awarded under this section for the administration of the
23 grant program established under this section.

24 Sec. 7. (1) The department shall establish and administer a
25 school mental health professional grant program to assist public
26 schools to employ or contract for new or additional qualified
27 school mental health professionals.

1 (2) All of the following apply to the grant program
2 established under this section:

3 (a) The department shall establish eligibility requirements
4 for a grant under this section.

5 (b) Grants awarded under this section are for 3 fiscal years
6 and all grant funds awarded for that period of 3 fiscal years must
7 be distributed in 1 payment at the beginning of the school year in
8 which the grant is first awarded. The amount awarded for the second
9 year of grant funding must be equal to 67% of the amount awarded
10 for the first year of grant funding. The amount awarded for the
11 third year of grant funding must be equal to 33% of the amount
12 awarded for the first year of grant funding.

13 (c) Beginning July 1, 2018, a school district, intermediate
14 school district, or public school academy may apply for a grant
15 under this section, in a form and manner prescribed by the
16 department. An application for a grant under this section must
17 include a description of how the applicant plans to at least
18 sustain the level of qualified school mental health professionals
19 achieved with grant funding after the 3-year grant period ends. The
20 viability of this plan must be a factor in the selection of grant
21 recipients.

22 (d) A school district, intermediate school district, or public
23 school academy that receives a grant under this section shall use
24 grant funds to employ or contract for 1 or more new or additional
25 full- or part-time qualified school mental health professionals. A
26 grant under this section must not be used to fund a qualified
27 school mental health professional employed or contracted for by a

1 school district, intermediate school district, or public school
2 academy before the award of a grant under this section.

3 (e) The department shall award grants under this section in
4 amounts sufficient to reduce the ratio of students to school
5 counselors in each public school to not more than 250 to 1, to
6 reduce the ratio of students to school psychologists in each public
7 school to not more than 700 to 1, and to reduce the ratio of
8 students to school social workers in each public school to not more
9 than 400 to 1. The department shall give priority to applicants
10 that require the greatest financial assistance to achieve the
11 ratios described in this subdivision and to projects that involve
12 multiple agencies working in partnership.

13 (3) The department may retain an amount not to exceed 1% of
14 each grant awarded under this section for the administration of the
15 grant program established under this section.

16 Sec. 9. (1) The department shall establish and administer a
17 school building security grant program to improve the safety and
18 security of school buildings, students, and staff through the
19 purchase of technology, building upgrades, and equipment and by
20 conducting annual school building safety assessments.

21 (2) All of the following apply to the grant program
22 established under this section:

23 (a) The department shall establish eligibility requirements
24 for a grant under this section.

25 (b) Beginning July 1, 2018, a school district, intermediate
26 school district, or public school academy may apply for a grant
27 under this section, in a form and manner prescribed by the

1 department.

2 (c) A school district, intermediate school district, or public
3 school academy that receives a grant under this section shall use
4 grant funds for school building upgrades, for the purchase of
5 equipment and technology to improve school safety, and for
6 conducting annual assessments of school buildings and school
7 grounds to identify ways to improve school security. Grant funds
8 may also be used for expenses including, at least, eligible
9 expenditures under the grant program created under section 901 of
10 article XVI of 2016 PA 268, as determined by the department.

11 (d) The department shall give priority to applications for
12 projects that involve multiple agencies working in partnership,
13 including, but not limited to, law enforcement and mental health
14 agencies. The department shall also give priority to applicants
15 that did not previously receive a grant from the department of
16 state police under the competitive school safety grant program and
17 to proposals that seek to secure exterior access points of school
18 buildings.

19 (3) The department may retain an amount not to exceed 1% of
20 each grant awarded under this section for the administration of the
21 grant program established under this section.

22 Sec. 11. (1) The Michigan school safety grant fund is created
23 as a separate restricted account within the state treasury.

24 (2) The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from
25 any source for deposit into the Michigan school safety grant fund.
26 The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the Michigan
27 school safety grant fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the

1 Michigan school safety grant fund interest and earnings from the
2 fund.

3 (3) Money available in the Michigan school safety grant fund
4 may only be expended, upon appropriation by the legislature, for
5 the purpose of making grants under this act.

6 (4) Money in the Michigan school safety grant fund at the
7 close of the fiscal year shall remain in the Michigan school safety
8 grant fund and shall not lapse to the general fund. The department
9 of treasury shall be the administrator of the Michigan school
10 safety grant fund for auditing purposes.

11 (5) Money in the Michigan school safety grant fund shall be
12 allocated as follows:

13 (a) No more than 40% for grants under section 5.

14 (b) No more than 40% for grants under section 7.

15 (c) No more than 20% for grants under section 9.

16 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect 90 days after the
17 date it is enacted into law.