



PROJECT PROPOSAL: MICHIGAN COALITION FOR SAFE SCHOOLS & ADVOCACY

Secure Our Schools Michigan | Legislative & Policy Reform Initiative

MEMORANDUM & POLICY BRIEF

TO: Members of the Michigan Senate and House Education Committees, State School Safety Liaisons & Legislative Policy Directors, Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP)

FROM: Danielle Taylor, Lead Administrator & Chair, MCSSA Michigan

DATE: Oct 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Legislative Policy Brief: Comprehensive Layered School Security, Objective Threat Reporting, Body Camera Transparency, and Protection Not Prosecution Standards (Proposed Sections 1308f, 1308g, 1308h, and 1308i to 1976 PA 451 — The Revised School Code)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & RATIONALE

In virtually every modern sector—from corporate operations and financial governance to municipal infrastructure and healthcare—organizations rely on empirical data, objective metrics, and analytics to evaluate performance, mitigate risk, and allocate capital. School safety must operate under this exact same standard of accountability. Soft targets invite danger, and administrative handbooks or gun-free zoning signs alone cannot stop unauthorized external trespassers operating outside school jurisdiction.

Taxpayers and local communities invest millions of dollars into state and grant-funded school safety initiatives, and parents deserve complete visibility into the tangible,

measurable return on those investments. School leaders and communities currently navigate a profound dual-fear dilemma: the legitimate fear of external violent intruders vs. the fear that subjective behavioral threat assessments (BTAM) will be mishandled, creating liability or fueling a school-to-prison pipeline. Physical campus containment policies through Secure Our Schools Michigan directly resolve this by prioritizing hard physical security over discretionary criminalization.

This Act unifies physical perimeter containment, objective reporting metrics, body-worn camera transparency, Protection Not Prosecution SRO standards, and dedicated state grant funding into a single statutory framework. By requiring factual incident metrics, instant interior teacher lockdown mechanisms, dedicated single-point entry armed security bound by strict MOUs, layered perimeter drop-off zones, and annual public transparency, this legislation eliminates administrative delay, enforces complete fiscal accountability, and secures Michigan schools against external harm.

FOUR-PILLAR STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

Pillar 1: Objective Incident Reporting & Executive Staff Training (Sec. 1308f)

1. **Standardized Metric Requirement:** Eliminates unverified speculative narratives, subjective emotional characterizations, and anecdotal opinions from incident logs, resolving the dual-fear dilemma through objective factual standards.
2. **Factual Recording Rules:** Mandates direct observable behavioral actions, exact verbatim statements, and environmental contextual metrics.
3. **Triage Severity Categorization:** Establishes Level 1 (Factual Classroom Log), Level 2 (Multi-Disciplinary BTAM Referral), and Level 3 (Immediate Active Emergency / Lockdown Trigger).
4. **Statewide Executive Training:** Directs the Department of State Police (MSP) and Michigan Department of Education (MDE) to issue standardized staff de-escalation and objective recording modules.

Pillar 2: Physical Campus Containment, SRO Standards & Hardened Entry Defense (Sec. 1308g)

5. **Teacher-Controlled Lockdown Hardware:** Mandates single-action interior lock controls on all classroom doors, enabling instant lockdown without stepping into hallways or using external keyways.
6. **Double-Door Interlocking Vestibules:** Restricts visitor access to interior corridors until identity verification and electronic screening are completed within a secure mantrap.

7. **Stationed Entry Defense & 'Protection Not Prosecution' SRO Standard:** Requires at least one dedicated SRO or certified armed security specialist stationed directly at the primary entrance for physical defense against external threats. Enforces binding local MOUs strictly prohibiting officers from conducting routine classroom discipline or minor behavioral enforcement, keeping educators in charge of student support.
8. **Mandatory Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Recording & Parental Access:** Mandates continuous BWC activation during all SRO active interactions and school safety incidents. Archived footage must be made accessible to parents/guardians upon formal request within 5 business days, subject to FERPA redactions for non-involved minors.
9. **Layered Perimeter Access Controls:** Establishes multi-ring vehicular drop-off loops separating parent traffic, buses, and pedestrian paths, anchored by crash-rated entrance bollards.

Pillar 3: Mandatory BTAM & Infrastructure Transparency (Sec. 1308h)

10. **Annual Public Board Presentation:** Mandates an annual public presentation prior to November 1 detailing aggregated, non-identifying threat assessment metrics, body camera audit logs, and facility physical security audits.
11. **FERPA & Due Process Compliance:** Ensures complete protection of student privacy and civil rights while enforcing robust public oversight.
12. **State Agency Reporting:** Mandates formal submission of district audits to MSP (Office of School Safety), MDE, and legislative K-12 appropriations committees within 30 days.

Pillar 4: Michigan School Infrastructure Security Dedicated Fund (Sec. 1308i)

13. **Restricted Non-Lapsing Fund:** Establishes a permanent state treasury fund combining legislative appropriations, state school aid allocations, federal grants, and public safety revenue.
14. **Direct Grant Allocations:** Directs funds toward interior lockdown hardware, secure vestibules, stationed armed entry personnel, body-worn camera equipment, perimeter bollards/fencing, and objective reporting software.
15. **Audit-Based Prioritization:** Prioritizes grant funding applications for districts demonstrating critical physical facility vulnerabilities in their annual Sec. 1308h security reports.