**South Carolina General Assembly**

123rd Session, 2019-2020

**S. 245**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Fanning

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Companion/Similar bill(s): 3323

Introduced in the Senate on January 8, 2019

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Education**

Summary: School resource officers

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/12/2018 Senate Prefiled

12/12/2018 Senate Referred to Committee on **Education**

1/8/2019 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 148](file:///h:\sj\20190108.docx))

1/8/2019 Senate Referred to Committee on **Education** ([Senate Journal‑page 148](file:///h:\sj\20190108.docx))

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=245&session=123&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/12/2018](file:///p:\pprever\2019-20\245_20181212.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑66‑25 SO AS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL ENSURE THE CONTINUOUS PRESENCE OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DURING REGULAR OPERATING HOURS, TO PROVIDE ONE SUCH OFFICER MUST BE PROVIDED FOR EVERY FIVE HUNDRED STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE SCHOOL, TO PROVIDE VARIOUS MEANS BY WHICH DISTRICTS MAY SATISFY THIS REQUIREMENT, AND TO MAKE THESE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE JULY 1, 2019.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 66, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑66‑25. (A)(1) Contingent upon full funding by the General Assembly, school districts shall ensure the continuous presence of at least one school resource officer in each public school in the district during regular operating hours, with at least one school resource officer for every five hundred students enrolled at the school, by requesting a school resource officer be assigned to each school in the district pursuant to Section 5‑7‑12. If a municipality or county in which a school is located declines to designate an officer to be assigned to the school to serve as a resource officer as provided in Section 5‑7‑12, the district shall either:

(a) enter an agreement with the municipality or county to share the cost of having the municipality or county designate an officer to be assigned as a resource office to a school; or

(b) hire an officer or employee to serve as a resource officer in a school, provided the employee must meet the minimum requirements of being a sworn law enforcement officer as provided in Chapter 23, Title 23.

(2) In determining the number of school resources officers a district must ensure will be present at a particular school for a school year to comply with the requirement that one such officer be present for every five hundred students enrolled at the school, the district may base its determination on the number of students enrolled at the school at the end of the preceding school year. The district may make adjustments to estimate changes expected from rezoning, when applicable, and may make estimates based on capacity for new schools.

(B) A district is not required to use subsection (A)(1)(a) or (b) districtwide, but may vary which item is used for each school as circumstances warrant in the discretion of the district.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2019.

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