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February 6, 2024

SENATE BILL NO. 1521

By: Pemberton of the Senate

and

Lowe (Dick) of the House

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 1, Chapter 281, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 5-148.1), which relates to the School Resource Officer Program; directing certain school districts to give first priority to hiring certain law enforcement officers; allowing certain school districts to employ or contract with certain officers or security guards under certain circumstances; directing certain law enforcement agency to provide certain individual a radio system to be used in performance of certain duties; allowing use of certain fund for certain purpose; updating statutory reference; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 281, O.S.L.
2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 5-148.1), is amended to read as
follows:

Section 5-148.1. A. The State Department of Education shall establish and maintain a three-year pilot program known as the School Resource Officer Program.

1 B. School resource officers employed or contracted by school
2 districts participating in the School Resource Officer Program shall
3 successfully complete law enforcement active shooter emergency
4 response training given by the Council on Law Enforcement Education
5 and Training (CLEET) and approved by the ~~Oklahoma~~ Department of
6 Public Safety.

7 C. ~~For purposes of this section, "school resource officer"~~

8 ~~means~~ 1. A school district participating in the School Resource
9 Officer Program shall give first priority to employing or

10 contracting with a law enforcement officer with sworn authority and
11 training in school-based law enforcement and crisis response who is
12 assigned by an employing law enforcement agency to work
13 collaboratively with one or more schools using community-oriented
14 policing concepts.

15 2. If a law enforcement officer described in paragraph 1 of
16 this subsection is unavailable, a participating school district may
17 employ or contract with a retired law enforcement officer or a
18 security guard who is licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Security
19 Guard and Private Investigator Act. The law enforcement agency that
20 serves the area in which a school district is located shall provide
21 an individual employed or contracted, pursuant to this paragraph,
22 with a police band radio system which may be used by the individual
23 in the performance of his or her duties. A school district may use
24

1 funds from the School Security Revolving Fund created pursuant to
2 Section 5-148.2 of this title to cover the cost of the radio system.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

4 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
5 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

8 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
9 February 6, 2024 - DO PASS
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