

**Bill Summary**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB 1417</b>
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**Bill Analysis**

HB 1417 creates the School Access For Emergency Response Act, or the SAFER, Act. It creates in the State Department of Education the School Access For Emergency Response Grant Program to provide grants to schools for needed interoperable communication hardware and software, equipment maintenance, and training to allow for seamless communications between first responder communications systems, and new or existing school communications systems. It allows a grant to be used to deliver training programs for district safety teams and security personnel, to implement an interoperable technology solution, and to maintain or improve a school's existing interoperable communication hardware or software or to provide communication hardware and software.

The bill directs the State Board of Education to implement the program in consultation with a 7-member grant selection committee. It requires an applying school to have a memorandum of understanding with its regional public safety answering point and the local law enforcement agency or agencies that serve the school for communications interoperability. It requires grant recipients to electronically submit a report to the State Department of Education by January 15, 2028, and each January 15 thereafter for the duration of the grant program. The bill also requires the Department to electronically submit a report to the Legislature by May 30, 2028, and by May 30 for the duration of the program. It creates the School Access For Emergency Response Revolving Fund. It limits expenditures from the fund to \$5 million in any fiscal year and directs that funds be divided equally among grant applicants.

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