Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO

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2025 Senate Bill 41

Senate Amendment 1

CURRENT LAW

Under current law, the Office of School Safety (OSS) in the Department of Justice (DOJ) administers two school safety grant programs. The first program awards grants to school districts, independent charter schools, private schools, and tribal schools for expenditures related to improving school safety. [s. 165.88 (2), Stats.] The second program awards grants to school districts and private schools to fund expenses related to submitting interactive critical mapping data to law enforcement agencies and OSS. [s. 165.88 (3m), Stats.]

2025 SENATE BILL 41

2025 Senate Bill 41 requires OSS to establish a competitive grant program for public,¹ private, and tribal schools to improve the safety of school buildings and to provide security training to school personnel. Under the bill, OSS must give preference in awarding grants to applicants that have not received a grant for school safety or interactive critical mapping data under s. 165.88 (2) or (3), Stats.

The bill creates an appropriation to fund the grant program and allocates \$30 million in the 2025-26 fiscal year.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 removes the appropriation, allocation, and related language from the bill. Additionally, the amendment changes the preference requirement such that OSS must only give preference in awarding grants to applicants that have not received a grant for school safety under s. 165.88 (2), Stats.

BILL HISTORY

Senator James offered Senate Amendment 1 on May 22, 2025. On June 13, 2025, the Senate Committee on Education recommended adoption of the bill and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 3; Noes, 2.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's bill history page.

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¹ The bill defines public school as elementary and high schools supported by public taxation.