Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO

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2023 Assembly Bill 69

Assembly Amendment 1

2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 69

Assembly Bill 69 (AB 69) requires public schools to report incidents to law enforcement, and requires schools that experience a certain number of incidents in a semester to employ a school resource officer. Under the bill, an "incident" is one of eight specified crimes, the violation of an alcohol, tobacco, or vaping ordinance, or the violation of a disorderly conduct ordinance.

Specifically, AB 69 requires school boards and independent charter school operators to report any incident in a school building or on school grounds to local law enforcement. The bill also requires a particular school to employ an armed school resource officer if at least 100 incidents of specified crimes occur at the school during a school semester, and at least 25 of those result in an arrest.

Under the bill, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) must reimburse schools employing an armed school resource officer for a portion of their associated costs for the coming three school years. DPI must reimburse a school board or independent charter school for 75 percent of costs for the 2023-2024 school year, 50 percent for the 2024-2025 school year, and 25 percent for the 2025-2026 school year. AB 69 also requires the Governor to allocate sufficient federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to DPI to cover the required reimbursements to school districts and independent charter schools.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 replaces references to "school semester" with references to a "5-month period that occurs during a school term." Under the amendment, a school that experiences 100 incidents with 25 qualifying arrests in a five-month period during a school term, rather than during a semester, must employ an armed school resource officer. The amendment also eliminates the 25 percent reimbursement to schools of costs associated with employing an armed school resource officer in the 2025-2026 school year.

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Amendment 1 was introduced by Representative Rettinger on March 13, 2023, and was adopted by the full Assembly on March 14, 2023.

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

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