
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

SB 1140 (Ashby) - Pupil safety: limiting school access to unauthorized individuals

Version: February 18, 2026
Urgency: No
Hearing Date: April 13, 2026

Policy Vote: ED. 7 - 0
Mandate: Yes
Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: This bill expands the components of a Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP) by requiring local educational agencies (LEAs) to include a plan to exclude unauthorized individuals from school property during construction, facilities maintenance, and repair projects.

Fiscal Impact: By requiring LEAs to add new components to their school safety plans, this bill could result in a reimbursable state mandate. The extent of these costs is unknown but based on the existing Comprehensive School Safety Plan I and II mandates, Proposition 98 General Fund costs could be in the tens of thousands of dollars each year. A precise amount would ultimately depend on the scope of the activities that LEAs elect to comply with the bill's requirements, with more costly activities increasing this estimate. The bill could create additional, unknown cost pressure on the K-12 Mandate Block Grant.

Background: Existing law requires each LEA to be responsible for the overall development of all CSSPs for its schools operating kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12. The CSSPs are intended to address campus risks, prepare for emergencies, and create a safe, secure learning environment for students and school personnel. Specifically, the law requires designated stakeholders to annually engage in a planning process to develop strategies, policies, and procedures to prevent and respond to potential incidents involving emergencies, natural and other disasters, hate crimes, violence, active assailants/intruders, bullying and cyberbullying, discrimination, and harassment, child abuse and neglect, discipline, suspension and expulsion, and other safety aspects.

Existing law requires each school to update and adopt its CSSP by March 1 each year. Before an LEA adopts its CSSP, the schoolsite council or school safety planning committee must hold a public meeting at the schoolsite to allow members of the public to express their opinions about the school safety plan. The schoolsite council or school safety planning committee must also notify the local mayor and specified representatives, including the local school employee organization, the parent organization at the school site, including the parent-teacher association and parent-teacher clubs, and each teacher organization at the school site. Once the public meeting has been held and the CSSP is adopted, the school must submit its CSSP to its respective LEA or COE for approval. LEAs and COEs must annually notify the California Department of Education by October 15 of any schools that have not complied with requirements.

Proposed Law: This bill requires schools to add plans to exclude unauthorized individuals from school property by limiting points of access during construction, facilities maintenance, and repair projects, as part of the safe ingress and egress procedures of their CSSP.

Staff Comments: This bill requires LEAs to add to their comprehensive school safety plans a plan to exclude unauthorized individuals from school property by limiting points of access during school facilities construction and maintenance projects. Consistent with previous determinations by the Commission on State Mandates regarding school safety plans, the Commission is likely to determine the activities required by this bill to be a higher level of service and therefore a reimbursable state mandate. The associated costs could be significant, potentially in the tens of thousands of dollars each year, but it would ultimately depend on how an LEA elects to comply with the bill's requirements. Alternatively, if school districts elect not to submit mandate claims to the Commission, there could be pressure for the state to increase the K-12 Mandates Block Grant. The amount of funding provided through the block grant is tied to the mandates that the Commission has approved as well as the costs for those mandates. School districts that choose to participate in the block grant receive a per-student amount to cover the cost of the various state mandated activities in lieu of submitting mandate claims for reimbursement. Charter schools may participate in the block grant but are not eligible to submit mandate claims nor receive reimbursement from the state.

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