

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-fourth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2020

# SENATE BILL 1023

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 5, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 15-160; REPEALING SECTION 15-160, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES,  
AS ADDED BY THIS ACT; ESTABLISHING A SAFE SCHOOLS TASK FORCE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 1, article 5, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-160, to read:

4 15-160. Safe schools task force; model plan; posting

5 A. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION SHALL ESTABLISH A SAFE  
6 SCHOOLS TASK FORCE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IDENTIFY BEST  
7 PRACTICES, MODEL PROGRAMS AND SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
8 AND CHARTER SCHOOLS TO FORM PARTNERSHIPS WITH QUALIFIED HEALTH, MENTAL  
9 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCIES IN THE COMMUNITY TO COORDINATE AND  
10 IMPROVE SUPPORT FOR YOUTH IN NEED.

11 B. THE SAFE SCHOOLS TASK FORCE SHALL DISCUSS, STUDY AND EVALUATE  
12 SCHOOL SAFETY MATERIALS, BEST PRACTICES AND RESOURCES, INCLUDING:

13 1. POSSIBLE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOL STAFF IN RECOGNIZING  
14 AND SCREENING FOR EMOTIONAL OR BEHAVIORAL DISTRESS IN PUPILS.

15 2. HOW SCHOOL STAFF SHOULD RESPOND TO SUSPICIONS, CONCERNS OR  
16 WARNING SIGNS OF EMOTIONAL OR BEHAVIORAL DISTRESS IN PUPILS.

17 3. PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES FOR COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS AND  
18 STUDENTS.

19 4. HOW THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT  
20 TO PUPILS AND SCHOOL STAFF AFTER AN INCIDENT OF VIOLENCE OR YOUTH SUICIDE.

21 C. THE SAFE SCHOOLS TASK FORCE SHALL EVALUATE RESOURCES AND  
22 MATERIALS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING  
23 RECOMMENDATIONS BY DECEMBER 31, 2020:

24 1. IDENTIFY A UNIFYING, RESEARCH-BASED APPROACH TO SCHOOL SAFETY.

25 2. CREATE A MODEL SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN.

26 3. DEVELOP A LIST OR CLEARINGHOUSE OF RESOURCES.

27 4. RESEARCH THE VALUE AND IMPACT OF A TIP LINE AND ADDITIONAL  
28 EVIDENCE-BASED, BEST PRACTICES FOR THIS STATE.

29 5. POTENTIAL LEGISLATIVE OR ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

30 D. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION SHALL:

31 1. ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 2021, POST ON THE DEPARTMENT OF  
32 EDUCATION'S WEBSITE THE MODEL SAFE SCHOOLS PLAN ADOPTED BY THE SCHOOL  
33 SAFETY TASK FORCE ALONG WITH RELEVANT RESOURCES AND INFORMATION TO SUPPORT  
34 SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A SAFE  
35 SCHOOLS PLAN PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

36 2. POST ON THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S WEBSITE THE  
37 RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE SCHOOL SAFETY TASK FORCE PURSUANT TO  
38 SUBSECTION C OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING A LIST OF STATEWIDE SCHOOL SAFETY  
39 RESOURCES.

40 Sec. 2. Delayed repeal

41 Section 15-160, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, is  
42 repealed from and after December 31, 2021.