

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 71

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTON GRAY.

0404L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 650, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the establishment of a task force on police officer presence in schools and communities.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 650, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 650.465, to read as follows:

650.465. 1. There is hereby established in the department of public safety a "Task Force on Police Officer Presence in Schools and Communities" to increase positive social interaction between youth and law enforcement officers and to develop a harmonious rapport between the two entities. The task force shall focus its efforts on establishing programs, projects, activities, and events in communities located in a county with a charter form of government and with more than nine hundred fifty thousand inhabitants that contain school districts with a total minority student population that exceeds fifty percent.

2. The task force shall have a membership of nine persons appointed by the director of the department of public safety. Membership may include, but not be limited to, representatives of the following groups:

(1) Licensed attorneys with experience in criminal defense who are in no way involved in prosecuting crimes;

(2) Civic organizations;

(3) Community-based organizations;

(4) Community education organizations;

(5) Local government;

(6) Local police organizations;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 (7) School boards; and

19 (8) Teachers.

20 3. The director of the department of public safety or the director's designee shall
21 convene the first meeting of the task force for the purpose of establishing the bylaws of the
22 task force and electing officers to include a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary.
23 The task force shall not meet more than four times annually. Members may be reimbursed
24 for expenses but shall not receive a per diem allowance.

25 4. The task force shall:

26 (1) Conduct studies on local, statewide, and national programs with demonstrated
27 success at increasing positive social relationships with law enforcement agencies and youth;

28 (2) Make recommendations to law enforcement agencies, communities, and schools
29 as to programs, projects, activities, and events that will aid in developing a harmonious
30 rapport between law enforcement officers and youth;

31 (3) Advise the commissioner of education and the department of education on issues
32 relating to the establishment of community relations programs in communities located in
33 a county with a charter form of government and with more than nine hundred fifty
34 thousand inhabitants that contain school districts with a total minority student population
35 that exceeds fifty percent;

36 (4) Make recommendations for a state plan for community education which sets
37 forth the goals and objectives of a community relations program and establishes a system
38 of priorities for targeting available resources on the areas with the greatest need within a
39 school district;

40 (5) Make recommendations for establishing community schools within communities
41 containing community relations programs; and

42 (6) Make recommendations for the funding of local community relations programs
43 and projects, activities, and events that will aid in developing a harmonious rapport
44 between law enforcement officers and youth.

45 5. For purposes of subsection 4 of this section, "community school", means a school
46 that makes its facilities available for citizen use, coordinates activities of local citizens in
47 identifying program needs and establishing priorities, identifies and utilizes available
48 program resources, and assists in the initiation of programs to improve the cultural, social,
49 recreational, and educational opportunities available in a community.

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