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133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Sen. Hoagland

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### SUMMARY

- Establishes the Ohio School Marshal Program.
- Requires the Director of Public Safety to appoint a Chief School Marshal, who then selects 16 regional school marshals that provide services regarding school and campus safety and security to primary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.
- Requires an individual to be either a licensed peace officer or a veteran of the United States Armed Forces and to have completed any additional training requirements required by the Director or the Chief School Marshal to be considered for the program.
- Requires school marshals annually to complete an approved weapons training recertification program.
- Specifies that the school marshal regions must correspond with the regions demarcated for the Educational Regional Service System.
- Requires additional protocols for building administrators in the development, testing, and administration of building emergency management plans.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Ohio School Marshal Program

The bill establishes the Ohio School Marshal Program. Under the program, the Director of Public Safety must administer appoint a Chief School Marshal, who then selects 16 regional school marshals in consultation with the Director. The regional school marshals provide services

regarding school and campus safety and security to public and nonpublic primary and secondary schools and state and private institutions of higher education.<sup>1</sup>

### **Eligibility and training**

The bill requires an individual to be either a licensed peace officer or a veteran of the United States Armed Forces who has been honorably discharged or who has been transferred to the reserve forces with evidence of satisfactory service to be eligible for the program. The individual must also meet all additional qualifications required by the Director of Public Safety or the Chief School Marshal.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, each school marshal must complete an annual firearms requalification program approved by the executive director of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission.<sup>3</sup>

### **Powers and duties**

The bill requires the Chief School Marshall to administer the marshal program, adopt additional qualifications for regional school marshals, and to enforce rules and execute additional duties required by the Director of Public Safety.

The bill specifies the following duties for each regional school marshal:

1. Assist administrators within the marshal's region with the development or review of an emergency management plan, upon request;
2. Assist in the development or review of security protocols of state or private institutions of higher education within the marshal's region, upon request;
3. Assist administrators of a public or nonpublic school within the marshal's region with any other security protocols for activities or events outside of a school building during or after school hours, upon request;
4. Assist in strategic communications between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in the event of an emergency situation at a school or an institution of higher education within the marshal's region, upon request;
5. Offer tactical emergency medical services training to public and nonpublic schools within the marshal's region;
6. Promote the use of the SaferOH tip line within the marshal's region;<sup>4</sup>
7. Enforce rules and execute additional duties prescribed by either the Director of Public Safety or the Chief School Marshal; and

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 5502.70.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 5502.701 and 5502.702.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 109.801.

<sup>4</sup> Information on the tip line can be found at [https://saferschools.ohio.gov/content/tip\\_line\\_information](https://saferschools.ohio.gov/content/tip_line_information).

8. Oversee training operations and offer training opportunities for school employees, which may include observing emergency management plan tests, providing weapons manipulation instruction, and other “appropriate activities.”<sup>5</sup>

The bill specifies that, except as otherwise provided in current law, nothing shall be construed to give the Director of Public Safety, the Chief School Marshal, or a regional school marshal authority over the incident management structure or responsibilities of local emergency response personnel.<sup>6</sup>

### **School marshal regions**

The bill requires the 16 school marshal regions to correspond with the regions demarcated for the Educational Regional Service System.<sup>7</sup> Those regions consist of the following county territories:<sup>8</sup>

<b>Region</b>	<b>Counties</b>
1	Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood
2	Erie, Huron, and Lorain
3	Cuyahoga
4	Geauga and Lake
5	Ashtabula, Mahoning, and Trumbull
6	Allen, Auglaize, Champaign, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, and Shelby
7	Ashland, Crawford, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, and Wyandot
8	Medina, Portage, and Summit
9	Columbiana, Stark, and Wayne
10	Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, and Preble
11	Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, and Union
12	Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum, Noble, and Tuscarawas
13	Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren
14	Adams, Brown, Clinton, Fayette, and Highland

<sup>5</sup> R.C. 5502.702(C).

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 5502.70(D).

<sup>7</sup> R.C. 5502.70(C).

<sup>8</sup> R.C. 3312.02, not in the bill.

Region	Counties
15	Lawrence, Pike, Ross, and Scioto
16	Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Perry, Vinton, and Washington

## Emergency management plans

The bill makes several changes to the development and operation of school comprehensive emergency management plans required under continuing law. First, the bill requires each building administrator to involve the regional school marshal when developing or revising a building's emergency management plan.<sup>9</sup>

Second, the bill requires each administrator to incorporate plans for (1) implementing mobile communications, (2) mobile accountability, and (3) mobile reunification into each building's emergency management plan.<sup>10</sup>

Third, the bill adds regional school marshals to the list of agencies that may receive a copy of a building's emergency management plan upon request. Current law permits the fire department and the emergency medical service organization serving the political subdivision in which the building is located and the county emergency management agency for the building to request a copy of building emergency management plans.<sup>11</sup>

Finally, the bill requires that each administrator prepare and conduct an emergency management test at least once per quarter. Administrators also must file a defined mission statement prior to conducting a test and an after-action report upon completion of a test with the regional school marshal.<sup>12</sup> Current law prescribes only one annual test, and administrative rule requires administrators to file an after-action report with the Department of Education within 30 days after a test.<sup>13</sup>

## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-09-19

S0147-I-133/ts

<sup>9</sup> R.C. 3313.536(B)(1).

<sup>10</sup> R.C. 3313.536(B)(2)(b).

<sup>11</sup> R.C. 3313.536(C)(2)(d).

<sup>12</sup> R.C. 3313.536(E)(1).

<sup>13</sup> R.C. 3313.536(E) and Ohio Administrative Code 3301-5-01.