

# Public Safety and Security Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-1374

AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL SECURITY PERSONNEL

**Title:** TRAINING.

**Vote Date:** 3/18/2025

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 2/27/2025

**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Public Safety Committee.

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

Raised Bill SB-1374 seeks to address a question regarding the mandating of police officers to train armed security which operate on school campuses.

This legislation would address a feeling of unease shared by many members of this state's regarding the safety of young people in our schools. With this legislation, it will require all officers engaged in this training be educated at the Connecticut Police Academy on subjects deemed necessary and thus, enforce the regulations here stipulated upon those they in turn educate to become armed security personnel on school campuses.

## **SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:**

The substitute language changes the term in Section 1 from elected to selected.

It also added a tenth subsection to Section 1 in which the required training shall include education on how to deal with those persons who may be struggling with, or manifesting, problems related to physical or mental health disabilities or of special needs. Use of de-escalation tactics are named thus as a form of mitigation to thus be taught in these courses.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

**None Expressed**

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

[State Advisory Council for Special Education, Legislative Committee, Chair, Jeffrey Spahr, Esq:](#)

Supports this bill because it will increase security and safety of students in our state. He proposes to add the following to the bill and "(10) techniques and strategies including de-escalation for incidents involving and for interacting with persons with physical or mental disabilities or other special needs."

[Special Education Equity for Kids, Legislative Chair, Andrew Feinstein:](#)

Supports this bill because it would train the currently under trained security services working to protect students in our states' schools. They offer that School Resource Officers (SRO's) also be added to this legislation's mandate of training, and not just of armed and unarmed security guards.

[Region 10 Schools Burlington PD, School Resource Officer, Matthew Funchion:](#)

Supports this bill because it would train armed security guards, who often do not know what SRO's do in schools.

[Region 10 Schools, Armed Security Officer, Thomas Lavigne:](#) Supports this bill because it would update the outdated information given in training sessions. Mr. Lavigne desires increased FBI statistics on school shootings in trainings, the ability for them to be armed with above 10 round magazines that can stop active shooters using high-power rifles and automatic weaponry, and access to stop the bleed first aid training to help those in need if called upon during a mass casualty incident at the school they protect.

[Michael Kamszik:](#) Supports.

[Mike M:](#) Supports.

[Dylan Martinez:](#) Supports.

[Henry Orlich:](#) Supports.

[Ryan Naranjo:](#) Supports

[Alexander Rodriguez:](#) Supports

[Ronnie S:](#) Supports.

[Ryan Johnson:](#) Supports.

[Justin Rosebrock:](#) Supports.

[Anonymous, Anonymous:](#) Supports.

[Joseph Brouillard:](#) Supports.

[Spejtim Fejzulaj:](#) Supports.

[CCDL, Larry Lauer:](#) Supports.

[Brandon Loehle](#): Supports.

[Aaron Maitz](#): Supports.

[Luis Martinez](#): Supports.

[Jaclyn R](#): Supports.

Many individuals support the bill citing the concerns around weapon magazine laws in our state and support of the Second Amendment.

*(Addendum, I'm not very sure if all these people mean to provide testimony for this bill itself, I'm assuming its all for 7052, but they are here. So, I'm putting them in now, but if you want to check them and see if they can be wiped, let me know – Tom Atwood).*

These persons include:

[Armed Guard, Christopher Cherry.](#)

[Droid Floyd Fentbot INC, Sir On Kang Dave-it, On Kang Dave-it.](#)  
[10 to 15 magazines, Michael Lafrance.](#)

[Anonymous, Anonymous.](#)

[Zachary Dyson.](#)

[Nicholas Kittle.](#)

[Mr. Anthony Mele.](#)

[Johnny Nucifora,](#)

[Jared Riva.](#)

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

Oppose this bill because it does not mention children with special needs or physical or mental disability.

They also recommend delimitation of responsibilities between officers and teachers, especially working with those suffering from traumatic experiences to those who have expertise in it. In addition, they recommend sexual harassment rates by officers in schools are quite high, and thus, make schools less safe. In that vein, training should also be added regarding prevention of such acts given to all armed and unarmed security, including SROs.

[Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, Executive Director, Fran Rabinowitz:](#)

Opposes this bill because it a.) jeopardizes local autonomy, taking the rights to make comprehensive agreements with local law enforcement away from districts, b.) promotes law-enforcement centric training models which may not prioritize de-escalation and other such non-use of force methods, c.) has a limited training scope, and d.) Qualified immunity creates a dangerous paradigm where ethical decision making would be trumped by actions that would undermine public trust.

[RACCE Inc, Executive Director, Robert Goodrich](#): Opposes this bill because it would reinforce the power of SROs in schools which, they posit, makes schools less safe, and drives youth towards the prison system due to over policing and surveillance.

**Reported by: Tom Atwood**

**Date: 3/28/25**