

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-FIRST SESSION**

**S.F. No. 3971**

(SENATE AUTHORS: BIGHAM)

DATE  
03/04/2020

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to E-12 Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to education; modifying the allowable uses of the safe schools levy;  
1.3 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 126C.44.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 126C.44, is amended to read:

1.6 **126C.44 SAFE SCHOOLS LEVY.**

1.7 (a) Each district may make a levy on all taxable property located within the district for  
1.8 the purposes specified in this section. The maximum amount which may be levied for all  
1.9 costs under this section shall be equal to \$36 multiplied by the district's adjusted pupil units  
1.10 for the school year. The proceeds of the levy must be reserved and used for directly funding  
1.11 the following purposes or for reimbursing the cities and counties who contract with the  
1.12 district for the following purposes:

1.13 (1) to pay the costs incurred for the salaries, benefits, and transportation costs of peace  
1.14 officers and sheriffs for liaison in services in the district's schools;

1.15 (2) to pay the costs for a drug abuse prevention program as defined in section 609.101,  
1.16 subdivision 3, paragraph (e), in the elementary schools;

1.17 (3) to pay the costs for a gang resistance education training curriculum in the district's  
1.18 schools;

1.19 (4) to pay the costs for security in the district's schools and on school property;

2.1 (5) to pay the costs for other crime prevention, drug abuse, student and staff safety,  
2.2 voluntary opt-in suicide prevention tools, and violence prevention measures taken by the  
2.3 school district;

2.4 (6) to pay costs for licensed school counselors, licensed school nurses, licensed school  
2.5 social workers, licensed school psychologists, and licensed alcohol and chemical dependency  
2.6 counselors to help provide early responses to problems;

2.7 (7) to pay for facility security enhancements including laminated glass, public  
2.8 announcement systems, emergency communications devices, and equipment and facility  
2.9 modifications related to violence prevention and facility security;

2.10 (8) to pay for costs associated with improving the school climate; ~~or~~

2.11 (9) to pay costs for colocating and collaborating with mental health professionals who  
2.12 are not district employees or contractors; or

2.13 (10) to pay for costs associated with a threat assessment policy that are not allowable  
2.14 under clauses (1) to (9).

2.15 (b) For expenditures under paragraph (a), clause (1), the district must initially attempt  
2.16 to contract for services to be provided by peace officers or sheriffs with the police department  
2.17 of each city or the sheriff's department of the county within the district containing the school  
2.18 receiving the services. If a local police department or a county sheriff's department does  
2.19 not wish to provide the necessary services, the district may contract for these services with  
2.20 any other police or sheriff's department located entirely or partially within the school district's  
2.21 boundaries.

2.22 (c) A school district that is a member of an intermediate school district may include in  
2.23 its authority under this section the costs associated with safe schools activities authorized  
2.24 under paragraph (a) for intermediate school district programs. This authority must not exceed  
2.25 \$15 times the adjusted pupil units of the member districts. This authority is in addition to  
2.26 any other authority authorized under this section. Revenue raised under this paragraph must  
2.27 be transferred to the intermediate school district.