



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 189

January Session, 2015

House Bill No. 6912

House of Representatives, March 24, 2015

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. DARGAN of the 115th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SCHOOL SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 84 of public act 13-3, as amended by section 15 of
2 public act 13-122, section 191 of public act 13-247 and section 73 of
3 public act 14-98, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
4 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, [2015] 2016,
6 inclusive, the Departments of Emergency Services and Public
7 Protection, Administrative Services and Education shall jointly
8 administer a school security infrastructure competitive grant program
9 to reimburse a town, regional educational service center, the governing
10 authority for a state charter school, the Department of Education on
11 behalf of the technical high school system, an incorporated or
12 endowed high school or academy approved by the State Board of
13 Education pursuant to section 10-34 of the general statutes and the
14 supervisory agent for a nonpublic school for certain expenses for
15 schools incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for: (1) The development

16 or improvement of the security infrastructure of schools, based on the
17 results of school building security assessments pursuant to subsection
18 (d) of this section, including, but not limited to, the installation of
19 surveillance cameras, penetration resistant vestibules, ballistic glass,
20 solid core doors, double door access, computer-controlled electronic
21 locks, entry door buzzer systems, scan card systems, panic alarms, real
22 time interoperable communications and multimedia sharing
23 infrastructure or other systems; and (2) (A) the training of school
24 personnel in the operation and maintenance of the security
25 infrastructure of school buildings, or (B) the purchase of portable
26 entrance security devices, including, but not limited to, metal detector
27 wands and screening machines and related training.

28 (b) (1) On and after the effective date of this section, each local and
29 regional board of education may, on behalf of its town or its member
30 towns, apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of
31 Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the
32 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant
33 for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such board of
34 education incurred on [and] or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes
35 described in subsection (a) of this section. Prior to the date that the
36 School Safety Infrastructure Council makes its initial submission of the
37 school safety infrastructure standards, pursuant to subsection (c) of
38 section 10-292r of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Emergency
39 Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners
40 of Administrative Services and Education, shall determine which
41 expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. On and
42 after the date that the School Safety Infrastructure Council submits the
43 school safety infrastructure standards, the decision to approve or deny
44 an application and the determination of which expenses are eligible for
45 reimbursement under the program shall be in accordance with the
46 most recent submission of the school safety infrastructure standards,
47 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

48 (2) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
49 2016, a regional educational service center may apply, at such time and

50 in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and
51 Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services
52 and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under
53 the jurisdiction of such regional educational service center incurred on
54 [and] or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection
55 (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to approve or
56 deny an application and which expenses are eligible for
57 reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in
58 accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed
59 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

60 (3) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
61 2016, the governing authority for a state charter school may apply, at
62 such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency
63 Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of
64 Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain
65 expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such governing authority
66 incurred on [and] or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described
67 in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether
68 to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for
69 reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in
70 accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed
71 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

72 (4) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
73 2016, the superintendent of the technical high school system may
74 apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of
75 Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the
76 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant
77 for certain expenses for schools in the technical high school system
78 incurred on [and] or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described
79 in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether
80 to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for
81 reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in
82 accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed
83 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

84 (5) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
85 2016, an incorporated or endowed high school or academy may apply,
86 at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency
87 Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of
88 Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain
89 expenses incurred on [and] or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes
90 described in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide
91 whether to approve or deny an application and which expenses are
92 eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be
93 in accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards
94 developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general
95 statutes.

96 (6) (A) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
97 2016, the supervisory agent for a nonpublic school may apply, at such
98 time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services
99 and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency
100 Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for
101 schools under the jurisdiction of such supervisory agent incurred on
102 [and] or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection
103 (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to approve or
104 deny an application and which expenses are eligible for
105 reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in
106 accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed
107 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

108 (B) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
109 2016, ten per cent of the funds available under the program shall be
110 awarded to the supervisory agents of nonpublic schools, in accordance
111 with the provisions of subdivision (6) of subsection (c) of this section.

112 (c) (1) A town may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its
113 eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined as follows: (A)
114 Each town shall be ranked in descending order from one to one
115 hundred sixty-nine according to town wealth, as defined in
116 subdivision (26) of section 10-262f of the general statutes, (B) based

117 upon such ranking, a percentage of not less than twenty or more than
118 eighty shall be assigned to each town on a continuous scale, and (C)
119 the town ranked first shall be assigned a percentage of twenty and the
120 town ranked last shall be assigned a percentage of eighty.

121 (2) A regional educational service center may receive a grant equal
122 to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be
123 determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (A)
124 multiplying the population of each member town in the regional
125 educational service center by such town's ranking, as determined in
126 subsection (a) of section 10-285a of the general statutes; (B) adding
127 together the figures for each town determined under subparagraph (A)
128 of this subdivision; and (C) dividing the total computed under
129 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all
130 member towns in the regional educational service center. The ranking
131 of each regional educational service center shall be rounded to the next
132 higher whole number and each such center shall receive the same
133 reimbursement percentage as would a town with the same rank.

134 (3) The governing authority for a state charter school may receive a
135 grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses that is the same as
136 the town in which such state charter school is located, as calculated
137 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

138 (4) The Department of Education, on behalf of the technical high
139 school system, may receive a grant equal to one hundred per cent of its
140 eligible expenses.

141 (5) An incorporated or endowed high school or academy may
142 receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The
143 percentage shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be
144 determined by (A) multiplying the total population, as defined in
145 section 10-261 of the general statutes, of each town which at the time of
146 application for such school security infrastructure competitive grant
147 has designated such school as the high school for such town for a
148 period of not less than five years from the date of such application, by
149 such town's percentile ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of

150 section 10-285a of the general statutes, (B) adding together the figures
151 for each town determined under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision,
152 and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this
153 subdivision by the total population of all towns which designate the
154 school as their high school under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.
155 The ranking determined pursuant to this subsection shall be rounded
156 to the next higher whole number. Such incorporated or endowed high
157 school or academy shall receive the reimbursement percentage of a
158 town with the same rank.

159 (6) The supervisory agent for a nonpublic school may receive a
160 grant equal to fifty per cent of its eligible expenses.

161 (d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, if there are not
162 sufficient funds to provide grants to all towns, based on the percentage
163 determined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the
164 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
165 consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and
166 Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools with
167 the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said
168 commissioners based on school building security assessments of the
169 schools under the jurisdiction of the town's school district conducted
170 pursuant to this subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such
171 schools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, said
172 commissioners shall give first priority to applicants on behalf of
173 schools that have no security infrastructure at the time of such school
174 building security assessment and succeeding priority to applicants on
175 behalf of schools located in priority school districts pursuant to section
176 10-266p of the general statutes. To be eligible for reimbursement
177 pursuant to this section, an applicant board of education shall (A)
178 demonstrate that it has developed and periodically practices an
179 emergency plan at the schools under its jurisdiction and that such plan
180 has been developed in concert with applicable state or local first-
181 responders, and (B) provide for a uniform assessment of the schools
182 under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure, using the
183 National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe Schools

184 Facilities Checklist. The assessment shall be conducted under the
185 supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

186 (2) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
187 2016, if there are not sufficient funds to provide grants to all applicants
188 that are towns, regional educational service centers, governing
189 authorities for state charter schools, the Department of Education, on
190 behalf of the technical high school system, and incorporated or
191 endowed high schools or academies based on the percentage
192 determined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the
193 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
194 consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and
195 Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools with
196 the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said
197 commissioners based on school building security assessments of the
198 schools under the jurisdiction of the applicant conducted pursuant to
199 this subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the
200 greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give
201 first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security
202 infrastructure at the time of such school building security assessment
203 and succeeding priority to applicants on behalf of schools located in
204 priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general
205 statutes. To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an
206 applicant shall (A) demonstrate that it has developed and periodically
207 practices an emergency plan at the schools under its jurisdiction and
208 that such plan has been developed in concert with applicable state or
209 local first-responders, and (B) provide for a uniform assessment of the
210 schools under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure,
211 using the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe
212 Schools Facilities Checklist. The assessment shall be conducted under
213 the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

214 (3) For the fiscal [year] years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30,
215 2016, if there are not sufficient funds to provide grants to all applicant
216 supervisory agents for nonpublic schools, based on the percentages
217 described in subsection (c) of this section, the Commissioner of

218 Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the
 219 Commissioners of Administrative Services and Education, shall give
 220 priority to applicants on behalf of schools with the greatest need for
 221 security infrastructure, as determined by said commissioners. Of the
 222 applicants on behalf of such schools with the greatest need for security
 223 infrastructure, said commissioners shall give first priority to applicants
 224 on behalf of schools that have no security infrastructure at the time of
 225 application. To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section,
 226 an applicant supervisory agent for a nonpublic school shall (A)
 227 demonstrate that it has developed and periodically practices an
 228 emergency plan at the school under its jurisdiction and that such plan
 229 has been developed in concert with applicable state or local first-
 230 responders, and (B) provide for a uniform assessment of the schools
 231 under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure, using the
 232 National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe Schools
 233 Facilities Checklist. The assessment shall be conducted under the
 234 supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	PA 13-3, Sec. 84

PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill, which extends the end date of the school security infrastructure competitive grant program to June 30, 2016, has no fiscal impact. The bill does not provide additional funding for the program.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6912*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE SCHOOL SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill extends the deadline for school security infrastructure grant applications and awards by one fiscal year, from June 30, 2015 to June 30, 2016. The grants are for developing or improving security infrastructure in schools, based on the results of school building security assessments conducted under the supervision of local law enforcement agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***School Security Infrastructure Grant Program***

PA 13-3 established this competitive state grant program to improve security infrastructure in schools. It reimburses towns, state charter schools, technical high schools, endowed academies, private schools, and regional education service centers for certain expenses incurred to (1) develop or improve security infrastructure, (2) train personnel to operate and maintain the new or improved security infrastructure, and (3) buy portable entrance security devices, such as metal detectors.

Eligible infrastructure includes the installation of surveillance cameras, penetration resistant vestibules, ballistic glass, solid core doors, double-door access, computer-controlled electronic locks, entry door buzzer systems, scan card systems, panic alarms, or other systems.

The program is jointly administered by the departments of Administrative Services, Education, and Emergency Services and

Public Protection. PA 13-3 authorized \$15 million in bonds for the program; PA 14-98 increased the amount to \$37 million.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/10/2015)