

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John C. Velis

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing the Massachusetts school safety data grant program.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

John C. Velis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Hampden and Hampshire

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act establishing the Massachusetts school safety data grant program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 147 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 63 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 64. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following
4 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 “Office”, the executive office of public safety and security

6 “Program”, the Massachusetts school safety data grant program

7 “Public safety agencies”, any municipal, county, regional, or state agency responsible for
8 providing emergency services, including law enforcement, fire departments, emergency medical
9 services.

10 “School”, any public or private primary or secondary educational institution, including
11 charter schools, vocational schools, and special education schools approved under Ch. 71B.

12 “School mapping data”, detailed and verified geographical and structural data of school
13 buildings and grounds, including but not limited to floor plans, aerial imagery, and site-specific
14 labels identifying rooms, hallways, stairwells, and emergency resources.

15 “Software platforms”, the digital tools and systems used by public safety agencies to
16 access, share, and utilize mapping data and related emergency information.

17 “Verified”, data that has been physically inspected and confirmed for accuracy through
18 an on-site review of the school buildings and grounds by the entity responsible for producing the
19 school mapping data.

20 (b) To facilitate efficient and effective emergency response by law enforcement and
21 public safety agencies across the commonwealth, the Massachusetts School Safety Data Grant
22 Program is hereby established within the office. The office shall, subject to appropriation,
23 administer a program to provide grants to municipal, county, regional, or state law enforcement
24 agencies for the purpose of developing standardized school mapping data to establish a single,
25 verified source of school mapping data for each school in the commonwealth, ensuring that such
26 data is accurate, standardized, and accessible to public safety agencies statewide to facilitate
27 efficient emergency response on school campuses. A municipal, county, regional, or state law
28 enforcement agency may apply for a grant to provide school mapping data for one or more
29 schools, provided the agency has jurisdiction over the respective school or schools.

30 (c) The school mapping data shall adhere to the following criteria. The data shall:

31 (1) conform to and integrate with software platforms used by municipal, state, and federal
32 public safety agencies responsible for emergency services at the school without requiring the
33 purchase of additional software or payment of fees to access the data. Future updates or

34 modifications to the school mapping data must conform to and integrate with all software
35 platforms used by the relevant public safety agencies;

36 (2) conform to and integrate with safety and emergency software platforms used by the
37 school without requiring the purchase of additional software or payment of fees to access the
38 data;

39 (3) be provided in a printable format;

40 (4) be oriented true north, include a grid with "x" and "y" coordinates for reference, and
41 include z-axis elevation data for each floor;

42 (5) have its accuracy verified by the entity producing the data through an on-site walk-
43 through of the school buildings and grounds;

44 (6) include accurate floor plans overlaid on current, verified aerial imagery of the school
45 campus;

46 (7) include site-specific labeling for school structures such as room names, hallway
47 designations, exterior doors, stairwell numbers, and the locations of hazards, critical utility
48 controls, key boxes, automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits and school grounds,
49 including parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring properties; and

50 (8) be provided to the school district and appropriate public safety agencies at no cost
51 beyond the initial cost of production and shall be made available to such entities permanently.

52 (d) The office shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the
53 provisions of this section and ensure compliance with the requirements of the program.