

SUMMARY- Revises provisions relating to “School resource officer” (BDR – TBD)

I. Intent of proposed Bill: The intent of this bill is to include school police officers in the Nevada definition of “School resource officer”

II. Justification or purpose:

Nevada’s definition of “School resource officer” was created by 2017 Nevada Legislature ABR 127 and excludes school police officers in the definition. The industry standard definition as well as the definition used the U.S. Department of Justice includes school police officers in the definition of “School resource officer.” The new Nevada law creates confusion regarding the definition. This bill would amend the Nevada definition would eliminate the confusion.

***SRO Defined (US Department of Justice/Industry Standard):***

Part Q of Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended, defines the SRO as “a career law enforcement officer, with sworn authority, deployed in community-oriented policing, and assigned by the employing police department or agency to work in collaboration with school and community-based organizations.” [US Department of Justice - OJJDP Fact Sheet March 2001 #5] **(School police officers are included by the definition)**

The Center for the Prevention of School Violence further defines an SRO as "a certified law enforcement officer who is permanently assigned to provide coverage to a school or set of schools. The SRO is specifically trained to perform three roles: law enforcement officer; law-related counselor; and law-related teacher. **(School police officers are included by the definition)**

***SRO Defined (Nevada Law – Chapter 388 – 2017 Nevada Legislature AB 127):***

Sec. 3. “School resource officer” means a deputy sheriff or other peace officer employed by a local law enforcement agency who is assigned to duty at one or more schools, interacts directly with pupils and whose responsibilities include, without limitation, providing guidance and information to pupils, families and educational personnel concerning the avoidance and prevention of crime. **(School police officers are excluded by the definition)**

III. NRS, Title, Chapter and section Affected (If applicable) : Chapter 388 of NRS –additional specific info is not available at this time as the changes from 2017 Legislature NRS are still in Nevada Statutes Form (2017 Statutes of Nevada, 405, AB 127, Page 2725-2734,) and have not yet been published by the Nevada Law Library.

IV. Effective Date: July 1, 2019

V Suggested Language (Optional):

Explanation – Matter in ***bold italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ material to be omitted

**Section 1.** Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended to read as follows:

“School resource officer” means a deputy sheriff or other peace officer employed by a local law enforcement agency ***or school police department*** who is assigned to duty at one or more schools, interacts directly with pupils and whose responsibilities include, without limitation, providing guidance and information to pupils, families and educational personnel concerning the avoidance and prevention of crime.

The Department of Education shall, at least once each year, coordinate with the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety, any emergency manager designated pursuant to section 4 of this act, any chief of police of a school district that has police officers and any school resource officer to conduct a conference regarding safety in public schools.

3. The conference conducted pursuant to subsection 1 may be attended by:

- (a) A licensed teacher of a school or charter school;
- (b) Educational support personnel employed by a school district or charter school;
- (c) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in a public school; and
- (d) An employee of a local law enforcement agency *or school police department*.

VI. Fiscal Note:

FISCAL NOTE:      Effect on Local Government: No  
Effect on the State: No