

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	HF 163/HSB 47	House Committee: Passed on 1/28/25 (16-6)
Committee:	Education	House Floor: Passed on 4/21/25 (91-0)
Floor Manager	Representative Stone	Senate Floor: Passed on 3/18/25 (48-0)
Date:	April 21, 2025	Governor: Signed on 5/6/25
Staff:	Kristin Rozeboom (1-3015)	

School Safety Threat Assessment Teams

- Allows for the creation of multidisciplinary threat assessment teams.
- Authorizes sharing of information between governmental agencies and other covered entities.
- Provides criminal and civil liability to certain persons who report information related to school safety.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1. Section 29D.1 Information sharing—School safety

“Covered entity” includes all of the following:

- A criminal or juvenile justice agency
- A city, county, or township
- A state agency
- Any service or support provider that contracts with an entity described below
- Does NOT include the judicial branch.

“School” means all of the following:

- A public school
- A nonpublic school
- A charter school established under 256E
- A charter school or innovation zone established under 256F
- Any service or support provider that contracts with any school described above.

“State agency” means a department, board, bureau, commission, or other agency or authority of the state of Iowa.

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any covered entity that provides services to students in K-12 who are experiencing or at risk of an emotional disturbance or mental illness, or who pose an articulable and significant threat to the health and safety of any person, shall, upon the request of another covered entity or school when the covered entity or school is acting as part of a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team, share records or information that are reasonably necessary to ensure access to appropriate services for such students, or to ensure the safety of such students or others, with any other such covered entity.

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team may request and receive records or information that are related to students enrolled in K-12 who are experiencing or at risk of an emotional disturbance or mental illness, or who pose an articulable and significant threat to the health and safety of any person.

When acting as part of a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team, a covered entity and a school may communicate, collaborate, and coordinate efforts with other covered entities to best serve students enrolled in K-12 who are experiencing or at risk of an emotional disturbance or mental illness, or who pose an articulable and significant threat to the health and safety of any person.

Section 2. Section 256E.7(2) New paragraphs

The sharing of information, communication, collaboration, and coordination of efforts to best serve students applies to charter schools.

Comply with the same requirements relating to the establishment of a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team.

Section 3. Section 256F.4(2)

The sharing of information, communication, collaboration, and coordination of efforts to best serve students applies to charter schools.

Comply with the same requirements relating to the establishment of a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team.

Section 4. Section 280.36 Multidisciplinary threat assessment teams—immunity—New Section

The school district and nonpublic school may establish a multidisciplinary threat assessment team. If established, the team shall coordinate resources and assess and intervene when a student enrolled in the school district or accredited nonpublic school exhibits behavior that may pose a threat to the safety of the district or nonpublic school, employees, or other students.

The threat assessment team may consist of the following members:

- Local law enforcement official
- Representative from juvenile court services
- Mental health professional
- Social services representative
- School official

The school district and nonpublic school may enter into an agreement with another district, accredited nonpublic school, charter school, or innovation zone school to create a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team that shall coordinate resources among schools and assess and intervene when a student enrolled in either school exhibits behavior that may pose a threat to the safety of either school, employees of either school, or students enrolled in either school.

A multidisciplinary threat assessment team may do any of the following:

- Share or request records or information
- Request records from the state court administrator.

In addition to other immunity available, any person who, in good faith with reasonable cause and without malice, acts to report, investigate, or cause any investigation to be made into the activities of a student or other person as such report or investigation relates to conduct or information indicating that the student or person poses a credible danger of serious bodily injury or death to one or more students, school employees, or others on school property shall be immune from all criminal and civil liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed as the result of the making of such report, investigation, or disclosure.

Notwithstanding 22.7, 232.147, 232.149, 232.149A, and 232.151, a representative from juvenile court services who is a member of a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team may share records or information among the other members of the multidisciplinary school safety assessment team if the records or information are reasonably necessary to ensure the safety of students or others, and if the records or information are not sealed by a court order.

Notwithstanding 22.7, 232.147, 232.149, 232.149A, and 232.151, upon the request of multidisciplinary school safety assessment team, the state court administrator shall disclose to the multidisciplinary school safety assessment team a

record if the record is reasonably necessary to ensure the safety of students or others, and if the record is not sealed by a court order.

The above shall not be construed to prohibit a multidisciplinary school safety assessment team from submitting an application to the state court administrator for release of a record pursuant to any other authority established by law.