

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1366

**Introduced by Assembly Member Machado
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Jackson)**

February 26, 1999

An act relating to school violence.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1366, as amended, Machado. School violence: task force.

Under the California Constitution, all pupils and staff of public primary, elementary, junior high, and senior high schools have the inalienable right to attend campuses that are safe, secure, and peaceful. Existing law provides various programs relative to school safety.

This bill would establish the School Violence Response and Intervention Act of 1999 and would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint a *School Crisis Intervention and Response Task Force*, of which the superintendent shall be the chairperson, comprised of representatives of educators, health practitioners, and members of the law enforcement community, each with expertise in school-based crisis intervention and response, to make appropriate policy recommendations on how to enhance state and local programs and training to adequately prepare school districts and county offices of education to meet the challenges stemming from disruptive or violent acts,

or both, on or near school campuses. This bill would require the task force to submit its findings and policy recommendations to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2001.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) This act shall be known, and may be
2 cited, as the School Violence Response and Intervention
3 Act of 1999.

4 (b) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
5 following:

6 (1) School violence, which threatens our children and
7 citizens' fundamental sense of safety in public schools,
8 thereby jeopardizing pupil's academic potential,
9 continues to be a top public policy concern.

10 (2) Teachers, administrators, and other school
11 personnel continue to be distracted from their basic
12 duties by disruptive and violent incidents on or near
13 school grounds.

14 (3) Although the number of violent acts on school
15 campuses has decreased in recent years, individual acts
16 are becoming more violent with much more harmful
17 consequences.

18 (4) A significant number of districts and county offices
19 of education do not have appropriate crisis intervention
20 and response programs in place. In addition, school
21 personnel, as a whole, are not adequately trained to
22 intervene or respond to such events.

23 (5) State and local school violence intervention and
24 response programs are not adequately coordinated to
25 prevent or respond to disruptive or violent acts on or near
26 school campuses in California.

27 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that current state
28 and local crisis intervention and response programs be
29 evaluated and that policy recommendations be made that
30 will eventually lead to more effective and coordinated
31 school violence intervention and response programs.



1 (d) The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall
2 appoint a *School* Crisis Intervention and Response Task
3 Force, of which the superintendent shall be the
4 chairperson. The task force shall be comprised of
5 representatives of educators, health practitioners, and
6 members of the law enforcement community, each with
7 expertise in school-based crisis intervention and
8 response. The members of the task force shall not receive
9 a salary for their services but shall be reimbursed for their
10 actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred
11 in the performance of their duties.

12 The task force shall perform the following tasks:

13 (1) Analyze and evaluate current statutes and
14 programs in the area of school-based crisis intervention
15 and response.

16 (2) Make appropriate policy recommendations on
17 how to enhance state and local programs and training to
18 adequately prepare school districts and county offices of
19 education to meet the challenges stemming from
20 disruptive and violent acts, or both, on or near school
21 campuses.

22 (3) Submit its findings and policy recommendations to
23 the Legislature on or before January 1, 2001.

