



# FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
CONTACT:

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Broward County Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie  
President, Florida Association of District School Superintendents

## **SCHOOL SAFETY SHOULD BE FULLY FUNDED TO MEET SCHOOL DISTRICT NEEDS**

Tallahassee, FL – Florida superintendents recognize and appreciate the additional dollars allocated to fund needed safety measures in Florida’s public schools. However the funding mechanism is flawed when dollars are restricted to certain types of law enforcement officers. Under SB 7026, law enforcement officers are underfunded but arming school personnel through the Marshal Program is overfunded. There will not be enough funding provided in SB 7026, or the pending state budget, to actually fund a law enforcement officer in every school. If SB 7026 is approved as it was enacted, Florida superintendents will be faced with the untenable decision to implement the Marshal Program even if the superintendent, school board, local sheriff, and teachers and parents oppose it.

To that point, Florida superintendents have sent a letter to Governor Scott urging his consideration of the following action:

- ◆ Veto the Marshal funding in SB 7026 (Section 40 – \$67 million) and direct the Legislature to reallocate the funds to be used at the discretion of the school district for School Resource Officers or the Marshal Program for those districts that desire to implement arming school personnel.

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*The mission of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents is to assist and support superintendents in providing leadership to ensure that every student in Florida acquires the skills, knowledge and attitude to be contributing members of our democratic society through leadership development programs focused on student achievement, building relationships with business and governmental leaders, and communication and networking services.*

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