

Proposed Law Could Require Armed Protection Officers in All Indiana Public Schools

By Michael W. Padgett

April 4, 2013

Legislation under consideration in Indiana would require all public and charter schools to have a trained, armed “school protection officer” on the school’s premises during regular school hours. If adopted, the legislation (Ind. S.B. 1, as amended, Apr. 2, 2013) would be the first in the nation to require armed employees in schools. The proposed legislation does not apply to private schools.

The proposal requires a school protection officer to carry a weapon at all times on school premises during regular school hours. The proposed legislation defines “weapon” as a “loaded firearm” and specifically excludes from that definition tasers, electric stun guns and any other device designed to temporarily incapacitate a person.

School protection officers could include school administrators, teachers, staff, police officers or security guards who have received specific, mandated training.

The bill passed in the Indiana House’s Committee on Education and has been referred to the Committee on Way and Means. If enacted, the proposed legislation would take effect on January 1, 2014.

Jackson Lewis will continue to monitor and report on further developments. If you have any questions about the proposal or other workplace developments, please contact the Jackson Lewis attorney with whom you regularly work.

©2013 Jackson Lewis P.C. This material is provided for informational purposes only. It is not intended to constitute legal advice nor does it create a client-lawyer relationship between Jackson Lewis and any recipient. Recipients should consult with counsel before taking any actions based on the information contained within this material. This material may be considered attorney advertising in some jurisdictions. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Focused on labor and employment law since 1958, Jackson Lewis P.C.’s 950+ attorneys located in major cities nationwide consistently identify and respond to new ways workplace law intersects business. We help employers develop proactive strategies, strong policies and business-oriented solutions to cultivate high-functioning workforces that are engaged, stable and diverse, and share our clients’ goals to emphasize inclusivity and respect for the contribution of every employee. For more information, visit <https://www.jacksonlewis.com>.

Meet the Author



Michael W. Padgett

Principal
Indianapolis 317-489-6936
Email

Practices

Workplace Safety and Health