

BACKGROUND:

School shootings are unacceptable and this proposal will *make our students safer tomorrow*. No amount of magazine restrictions, gun bans, age-limit increases, or “enhanced background checks” will deter a future perpetrator. There are school districts in Washington, such as Toppenish, that have highly trained administrators and staff that anonymously conceal carry. If protecting our students is a priority, we need more than words on paper or a sign to keep them safe.

What the bill DOES do:

- Directs and Funds the Criminal Justice Training Commission to develop a program to train school staff to respond to an armed threat.
- Allows school districts to opt-in and send staff to be trained.
- **DOES** require school district approval.

What the bill DOES NOT do:

- The legislation **DOES NOT** arm teachers or staff.
- It **DOES NOT** require schools to arm teachers or staff.
- It **DOES NOT** pay for purchasing firearms for districts.
- The bill **DOES NOT** mandate schools implement any guns on campus policy.



What would the training look like?

- The CJTC would develop a program to train staff in de-escalation, and active shooter response.
- School districts can opt-in to the program and send staff to be trained, with grant funding available.
- CJTC could also certify other local trainers around the state.
- Applicants would be screened just like police officers, undergoing a psychological evaluation and certain number of hours of training to be established by the Commission.
- Establish a protocol for first responders to identify which staff are armed in their jurisdiction.
- CJTC could look to Toppenish SD and others for their input on how to implement at a school district level.