

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 550

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**Version:** As Introduced

**Authors:** Demmer and others

**Subject:** Reserving safe schools revenue for certain school sites

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### Overview

The safe schools levy, formerly known as the crime levy, allows school districts to levy for costs associated with student and staff safety issues. Eligible expenses include: police liaison services; drug abuse prevention programs (DARE); gang resistance education training; school security; and any other crime prevention and student and staff safety measures.

The safe schools levy was increased from \$11 per pupil unit to \$30 per pupil unit beginning with taxes payable in 2003 (fiscal year 2004) and lowered by the 2003 Legislature to \$27 per pupil unit for taxes payable in 2004 and later.

This bill restores the safe schools levy to \$30 per pupil unit, requires the revenue to be reserved and spent proportionately by grade level, and adds school counselors to the list of eligible expenditures.

### Section

- 1** **Safe schools levy.** Restores funding for the safe school levy from \$27 per pupil unit to \$30 per pupil unit. Requires the proceeds of the levy to be reserved and spent proportionately on elementary, middle school, and secondary school pupils. Expands the uses of the levy to include the salary and benefits costs of school counselors.