

HB 2662 -- SCHOOL PROTECTION OFFICERS

SPONSOR: Brattin

This bill changes the school protection officer ("SPO") laws. A school district may designate any employee as an SPO, instead of just teachers or administrators. The school board of every school district must hold a public hearing and vote on whether the district will implement an SPO program. Any district that approves an SPO program shall notify all employees. When an employee requests designation as an SPO the school board must hold a public hearing and vote on the request. The board must also hold a closed meeting to vote on whether to authorize the SPO to carry a concealed firearm or self-defense spray device.

SPOs must use Dynamic Research Technologies ammunition while on duty. SPOs must receive 20 hours of firearms skill training each year and participate in a joint school protection training with a local law enforcement agency twice a year.

The bill also requires the Director of the Department of Public Safety to allow private companies to provide SPO training.