

**ROBSTOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
AGENDA ACTION SHEET**

Date: August 29, 2023

Subject: Discuss and Consider Approval to Authorize the Creation of the Robstown ISD Police Department

Administrator Responsible: Dr. Marc Puig

Position: Superintendent

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Information Only Action Needed

B. Authority for this Action:

Local Policy _____ Law or Rule _____

C. Strategic Objective, Goal, or Need Addressed:

School safety—House Bill 3, new Texas Education Code section 37.0814, effective on September 1, 2023.

D. Summary: House Bill 3 (HB 3), effective September 1, 2023, adds new Texas Education Code section 37.0814. This new law requires each school board to determine the appropriate number of armed security officers for each district campus and, absent a good cause exception, ensure at least one armed security officer—specifically, a commissioned peace officer—is present during regular school hours at each campus. A school board can claim a good cause exception to this requirement due to lack of funding or qualified personnel. If the board claims a good cause exception, the board must provide an alternative standard that may include reliance on a school marshal or an employee or contracted individual who has completed the handgun safety course required for handgun license holders and is authorized to carry a firearm by the district (often called a “guardian” in school board policy). Each district must create and maintain documentation of its compliance with this section.

E. Alternatives Considered: School Marshal Plan and School Guardian Plan.

F. Comments Received:

G. Administrative Recommendation: Approved resolution authorizing the creation of a Robstown ISD Police Department.

H. Fiscal Impact and Cost: To meet the new requirement, lawmakers will provide districts \$15,000 per campus and an additional 28 cents per student for a total of \$10 per student.

I. Monitoring and Reporting Timeline: 2023-2024 School Year