

Senator Sasha Renee Perez
Chair, Senate Education Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 6740
Sacramento, CA 95814

March 9, 2026

RE: SB 1140 (Ashby)

Position: Sponsor

Dear Chair Perez:

CFT—A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO, is proud to sponsor SB 1140 (Ashby), which will better protect students and faculty from various workplace violence-related hazards.

Every public school in California struggles to keep unauthorized individuals off of school property, and the problem takes many forms: persons in addiction or mental health crisis seeking access to the facility, dangerous spouses or acquaintances seeking to commit domestic violence against a specific person, or the worst-case scenario, an active shooter planning a catastrophic event.

Ideally, schools are safe places for all students, workers, volunteers and authorized visitors, but that safety remains elusive when anyone can enter campus unimpeded. While virtually all schools work hard to limit who can access school grounds, these efforts demand more dedicated attention during infrastructure projects such as construction, facilities maintenance or repair.

Such work inherently involves repeatedly opening doors, driveway gates, and other points of access, often over the course of several days or weeks. And, given the size and scope of many school facilities, it is not unheard of for such contractors to be onsite for the majority of the school year, sometimes with multiple contractors performing work simultaneously. While it is very possible to keep the school site secure during all of this work, doing so requires careful planning and coordination between school officials, contracting entities, and affected workers.

SB 1140 (Ashby) codifies such efforts by simply adding this topic as one that must be considered in school safety plans. All TK-12 schools are currently required to update these plans by March 1 of every year; SB 1140 (Ashby) directs that these documents express how the school will ensure campus security during such work. As every campus is different, this bill allows each to develop the solution that best works for them, helping preserve the safety of students and workers without

creating any new burdensome mandates or confusing direction.

We urge you to support SB 1140 (Ashby) when it comes before you in the Senate Education Committee. Please feel free to contact CFT Legislative Representative Mitch Steiger at msteiger@cft.org or (916) 524-5182 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mitch Steiger
Legislative Representative
MS: rc-opeiu#29 afl-cio

