

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Jr., Chair, SC Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Greg Hembree, Chair, SC Senate Education Committee
The Honorable Bruse W. Bannister, Chair, SC House Ways and Means Committee
The Honorable Shannon S. Erickson Chair, SC House Education and Public Works Committee

FROM: Kendra M. Hunt, CPM, CGFO
Deputy Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer

DATE: September 30, 2025

RE: Proviso 1A.37 Compliance – Aid to Districts Draw Down

This memo serves as compliance to the following proviso in the 2025 Appropriations Act.

1A.37 (SDE-EIA: Aid to Districts Draw Down) For the current fiscal year, in order to draw down funds appropriated in Part IA, Section 1, VIII.A.1, Aid to Districts, school districts, Palmetto Unified District and the Department of Juvenile Justice must work with local law enforcement agencies and fire marshals, and when necessary, state law enforcement agencies and the Office of the State Fire Marshal in order to ensure that the district has updated school safety and fire plans in place. The safety and fire plans must include safety directives in the classroom, a safe student and staff exit strategy and necessary safety staff. Notice of completion of the updated plans must be submitted to the Department of Education no later than September first, of the current fiscal year. In the current fiscal year, school districts may continue to negotiate with local law enforcement for the provision of School Resource Officers. The department must report to the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee, the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee by September thirtieth, of the current fiscal year, on any districts that failed to submit an updated plan.

All districts, except three, submitted the required safety plans as outlined above to the Department's Office of Safe Schools. Limestone Charter Association, Lee County School District, and McCormick County School District have not complied with the requirements of the proviso as outlined above.

Please do not hesitate to call me at 803-734-8108, if you have any questions.