

Sponsor Statement
SB 325

Senate Bill 325: “An Act relating to the crime of assault.”

State statute provides for specific terms of imprisonment for crimes committed against certain public employees, such as peace officers, firefighters, etc., in the performance of their official duties. School employees, who, each day, work with our most precious resource, our children, deserve the same level of respect and protection under the law.

This bill revises sentencing guidelines so that an individual convicted as an adult of assault on a school employee during, or because of, the performance of official duties, will receive a *mandatory* minimum term of imprisonment. This would be similar to that imposed upon an individual who assaults a uniformed or otherwise clearly identified peace officer, fire fighter, correctional employee, or emergency responder engaged in the performance of official duties at the time of the offense.

Schools must be safe for teachers and other school employees, as well as for children, and this bill adds a giant step toward that safety. I urge your support of [SB 325](#).