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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairperson Thompson
Members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: March 22, 2023

Subject: HB 2304 – Firearm safety education programs.

House Bill No. 2304 (HB 2304) would require the State Board of Education establish curriculum guidelines for a standardized firearm safety education program. The bill would require the guidelines to be based on existing programs as follows:

- For students in kindergarten and grades 1 through 5, the guidelines will be based on the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program offered by the National Rifle Association.
- For students in grades 6 through 8, the guidelines will be based on either the Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program or the Hunter Education In Our Schools Program offered by the Department of Wildlife and Parks.
- For students in grades 9 through 12, the guidelines will be based on the Hunter Education In Our Schools Program.

A local board of education may elect to offer such course. If a board of education does offer firearm safety education programs to students, then it must provide instruction that is in accordance with the guidelines and provide every student an opportunity to participate in such program.

The provisions of HB 2304 were passed by the Legislature in 2021 in Substitute for HB 2089. That bill was subsequently vetoed by the Governor on April 22, 2021.

If enacted, HB 2304 would become effective on July 1, 2023.