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UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR IOWA

EAGLES Act of 2023

BACKGROUND: U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center

The National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) was established in 1998 by the Secret Service to conduct research on various types of targeted violence, including school shootings. Through its research, NTAC found that most attackers exhibited indicators of pre-attack behavior. Based on these findings, NTAC developed a behavioral threat assessment model that entailed a 3-step process:

- 1) Identifying individuals who are exhibiting pre-attack behavior;
- 2) Assessing whether the individual poses a threat; and
- 3) Managing the threat.

One of the seminal studies conducted by NTAC occurred following the attack at Columbine High School.

EXPANSION OF THE ROLE OF NTAC

The EAGLES Act of 2023:

- Reauthorizes and expands NTAC to conduct additional research and training to prevent targeted violence.
- Permits consultation with outside entities on complex threat assessment cases or programs.
- Facilitates information sharing on behavioral threat assessment and prevention of targeted violence among agencies with protective or public safety responsibilities, as well as other public or private entities.
- Promotes the development of best practices and standardization across all levels of government on behavioral threat assessment and prevention of targeted violence.

SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE

The EAGLES Act of 2023:

- Establishes a national program on targeted school violence prevention.
- Provides funding to hire additional personnel to greatly expand NTAC research and training on targeted school violence nationwide.
- Requires NTAC to develop a plan to execute the expansion of research and training nationwide.
- Directs NTAC to coordinate with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education.
- Authorizes the creation of an interactive website to disseminate information and data on targeted school violence prevention.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

- The bill requires the Secret Service to report on the implementation of the act within 2 years of enactment.