

House Judiciary

04/14/2026

SB26-104 Require Key Boxes at Schools

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Davon Williams For themselves	<p>Chair and members of the Committee,</p> <p>My name is Davon Williams, and I am a candidate for Colorado House District 3, representing communities in Denver and Arapahoe County. I am writing in support of SB26-104.</p> <p>This bill requires schools to install secure exterior key boxes containing the keys and access devices necessary for law enforcement to enter school buildings and interior spaces during emergencies. This is a practical and important step to improve response times in critical situations.</p> <p>As a former director within a public school district, I have been directly involved in safety planning and understand how essential rapid access is during an emergency. When first responders are delayed—whether by locked entry points or lack of access to specific areas within a building—it can slow response and increase risk.</p> <p>Providing secure, controlled access to both school facilities and interior spaces allows law enforcement to respond more effectively while maintaining appropriate security protocols during normal operations.</p> <p>This bill also recognizes that safety improvements must be feasible for districts by allowing the use of existing school security funding sources to support implementation.</p> <p>SB26-104 is a straightforward, operational improvement that strengthens school safety without adding unnecessary complexity.</p>

	<p>For these reasons, I support this bill.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Best, Davon Williams</p>
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Testimony of Michele Saller Miller
Retired School Teach, Administrator and Principal
In Support of Colorado Senate Bill 26-104
Before the Colorado Senate Judiciary Committee
March 9, 2026

Chair, Vice Chair, Ranking Member, and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Michele Saller Miller, and I currently live in Northglenn, CO. I retired in 2025 as principal of Brantner Elementary School in Brighton, CO, after more than 30 years in education, including serving as a teacher, administrator, and principal at schools in Florida and Colorado. The following testimony is in support of Senate Bill 26-104, which would require schools to install key boxes that provide access to local law enforcement during emergencies.

In today's world, active shooters, hostile events, hoaxes, and other emergencies are a reality in today's schools, and certainly Colorado is no exception, as evidenced by numerous active shooter events in our state, not to mention the increase in "swatting" or hoax calls. While I was principal, I was often asked, "What keeps you up at night?" Violent acts, especially those with mass casualties, were top of mind for me and I'm sure most of my peers. Creating and maintaining a safe environment for our students, teachers, and staff should be of the utmost importance.

Schools have hardened themselves with locking doors, securing perimeters, installing vestibules, adding access control systems, and more. While these measures enhance day-to-day security, they also create new barriers for first responders who must gain entry during emergencies. Unfortunately, law enforcement access is often overlooked or assumed as a given by school administrators.

In active assailant situations, seconds matter. Time equals life. Having a law enforcement-accessible exterior key box ensures that any first-arriving officer – regardless of jurisdiction – can immediately access master external and internal keys, access cards, and up-to-date school maps to locate, isolate, and neutralize the threat.

Another advantage of quick response is the less trauma our students have to go through. The faster a situation is mitigated, the better. And if we can return the students to school with no property damage and constant reminders of the trauma they faced, then we can achieve normality faster.

While a key box for law enforcement may not stop a school shooting from happening, it could help put an end to the incident faster and get the care needed quicker. This is a common-sense, cost-effective solution that should be commonplace on schools across the country, and certainly here in Colorado.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Saller Miller