
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1979

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Quall, Lovick, Haigh, Ormsby, Kenney and Hurst)

READ FIRST TIME 02/27/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to safe schools; amending RCW 28A.320.125; and
2 adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.320.125 and 2002 c 205 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) ~~((By June 1, 2002, within existing resources, the~~
7 ~~superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with~~
8 ~~representatives from the emergency management division of the state~~
9 ~~military department, educators, classified staff, principals,~~
10 ~~superintendents, administrators, the American society for industrial~~
11 ~~security, the state criminal justice training commission, the~~
12 ~~Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs, and others as~~
13 ~~determined by the superintendent, shall provide guidance to school~~
14 ~~districts in developing comprehensive safe school plans for each~~
15 ~~school. This guidance shall include, but shall not be limited to, a~~
16 ~~comprehensive school safety checklist to use as a tool when developing~~
17 ~~their own individual comprehensive safe school plans, and successful~~
18 ~~models of comprehensive safe school plans that include prevention,~~
19 ~~intervention, all hazards/crisis response, and postcrisis recovery.))~~

1 The legislature considers it to be a matter of public safety for public
2 schools and staff to have current safe school plans and procedures in
3 place, fully consistent with federal law. The legislature further
4 finds and intends, by requiring safe school plans to be in place, that
5 school districts will become eligible for federal assistance. The
6 legislature further finds that schools are in a position to serve the
7 community in the event of an emergency resulting from natural disasters
8 or man-made disasters.

9 (2) Schools and school districts shall consider the guidance
10 provided by the superintendent of public instruction, including the
11 comprehensive school safety checklist and the model comprehensive safe
12 school plans that include prevention, intervention, all hazard/crisis
13 response, and postcrisis recovery, when developing their own individual
14 comprehensive safe school plans. Each school district shall adopt, no
15 later than September 1, 2008, and implement a safe school plan
16 consistent with the school mapping information system pursuant to RCW
17 36.28A.060. The plan shall:

18 (a) Include required school safety policies and procedures;

19 (b) Address emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and
20 recovery;

21 (c) Include provisions for assisting and communicating with
22 students and staff, including those with special needs or disabilities;

23 (d) Use the training guidance provided by the Washington emergency
24 management division of the state military department in collaboration
25 with the Washington state office of superintendent of public
26 instruction school safety center and the school safety center advisory
27 committee;

28 (e) Require the building principal to be certified on the incident
29 command system;

30 (f) Take into account the manner in which the school facilities may
31 be used as a community asset in the event of a community-wide
32 emergency; and

33 (g) Set guidelines for requesting city or county law enforcement
34 agencies, local fire departments, emergency service providers, and
35 county emergency management agencies to meet with school districts and
36 participate in safety-related drills annually.

37 ~~(3) ((The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation~~
38 ~~with school district superintendents, shall establish timelines for~~

1 ~~school districts to develop individual comprehensive safe school plans.~~
2 ~~The superintendent of public instruction shall require school districts~~
3 ~~to periodically report progress on their comprehensive safe school~~
4 ~~plans.~~

5 (4)) School districts shall annually:

6 (a) Review and update safe school plans in collaboration with local
7 emergency response agencies;

8 (b) Conduct an inventory of all hazardous materials;

9 (c) Update information on the school mapping information system to
10 reflect current staffing and updated plans, including:

11 (i) Identifying all staff members who are trained on the national
12 incident management system, trained on the incident command system, or
13 are certified on the incident command system; and

14 (ii) Identifying school transportation procedures for evacuation,
15 to include bus staging areas, evacuation routes, communication systems,
16 parent-student reunification sites, and secondary transportation
17 agreements consistent with the school mapping information system; and

18 (d) Provide information to all staff on the use of emergency
19 supplies and notification and alert procedures.

20 (4) School districts are required to annually record and report on
21 the information and activities required in subsection (3) of this
22 section to the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs.

23 (5) School districts are encouraged to work with local emergency
24 management agencies and other emergency responders to conduct one
25 tabletop exercise, one functional exercise, and two full-scale
26 exercises within a four-year period.

27 (6) Schools shall conduct no less than one safety-related drill
28 each month that school is in session. Schools shall complete no less
29 than one drill using the school mapping information system, one drill
30 for lockdowns, one drill for shelter-in-place, and six drills for fire
31 evacuation in accordance with the state fire code. Schools should
32 consider drills for earthquakes, tsunamis, or other high risk local
33 events. Schools shall document the date and time of such drills. This
34 subsection is intended to satisfy all federal requirements for
35 comprehensive school emergency drills and evacuations.

36 (7) Educational service districts are encouraged to apply for
37 federal emergency response and crisis management grants with the

1 assistance of the superintendent of public instruction and the
2 Washington emergency management division of the state military
3 department.

4 (8) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules to
5 implement provisions of this section. These rules may include, but are
6 not limited to, provisions for (~~periodic drills and testing,~~)
7 evacuations, lockdowns, or other components of a comprehensive safe
8 school plan.

9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 (1) A task force on gangs in schools is created to examine current
12 adult and youth gang activities that are affecting school safety. The
13 task force shall work under the guidance of the superintendent of
14 public instruction school safety center, the school safety center
15 advisory committee, and the Washington association of sheriffs and
16 police chiefs.

17 (2) The task force shall be comprised of representatives, selected
18 by the superintendent of public instruction, who possess expertise
19 relevant to gang activity in schools. The task force shall outline
20 methods for preventing new gangs, eliminating existing gangs, gathering
21 intelligence, and sharing information about gang activities.

22 (3) Beginning December 1, 2007, the task force shall annually
23 report its findings and recommendations to the education committees of
24 the legislature.

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