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**Public Safety & Emergency  
Preparedness Committee**

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**HB 1933**

**Brief Description:** Concerning emergency shelters.

**Sponsors:** Representatives O'Brien, Pearson, Roberts, Walsh, McCoy, Sump, Darneille, Morrell, Anderson, Santos and Ormsby.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Requires all public schools in Washington to be made available to the public as emergency shelters during states of emergency.

**Hearing Date:** 2/14/07

**Staff:** Yvonne Walker (786-7841).

**Background:**

Generally individual districts design their own school buildings. They are often funded with local bonds and some state funds. However, there are specific requirements that schools must meet prior to opening up or allowing students inside for educational purposes. Some of the requirements that must be met include meeting specific building codes, fire codes, high performance standards (otherwise known as green buildings), Growth Management Act requirements, as well as certain health restrictions.

Prior to a building being constructed, construction contractors often submit competing bids along with construction specifications and designs that are used to detail everything that will be included in the construction of a building. Construction specifications often include specified details of the work for which direct payment will be made, the estimated quantities of work (labor hours), units of measurement, technical details, any requirements of the contract, all products that will be used, material requirements or specifications, and costs.

**Summary of Bill:**

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During states of emergency, every public school located in Washington must be made available to the public as an emergency shelter and to the best of their ability, each school must provide water, shelter, and utilities to the public. The schools must have a system in place to alert the public that the facilities are available during states of emergency.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 2, 2007.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.