
HOUSE BILL 1279

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representative Pettigrew

Read first time 01/16/17. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to school safety drills; and amending RCW
2 28A.320.125.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.320.125 and 2013 c 14 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

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

14 (2) Schools and school districts shall consider the guidance
15 provided by the superintendent of public instruction, including the
16 comprehensive school safety checklist and the model comprehensive
17 safe school plans that include prevention, intervention, all hazard/
18 crisis response, and postcrisis recovery, when developing their own
19 individual comprehensive safe school plans. Each school district
20 shall adopt, no later than September 1, 2008, and implement a safe

1 school plan consistent with the school mapping information system
2 pursuant to RCW 36.28A.060. The plan shall:

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

4 (b) Address emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and
5 recovery;

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

9 (d) Use the training guidance provided by the Washington
10 emergency management division of the state military department in
11 collaboration with the Washington state office of the superintendent
12 of public instruction school safety center and the school safety
13 center advisory committee;

14 (e) Require the building principal to be certified on the
15 incident command system;

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

19 (g) Set guidelines for requesting city or county law enforcement
20 agencies, local fire departments, emergency service providers, and
21 county emergency management agencies to meet with school districts
22 and participate in safety-related drills.

23 (3) To the extent funds are available, school districts shall
24 annually:

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

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

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

30 (i) Identifying all staff members who are trained on the national
31 incident management system, trained on the incident command system,
32 or are certified on the incident command system; and

33 (ii) Identifying school transportation procedures for evacuation,
34 to include bus staging areas, evacuation routes, communication
35 systems, parent-student reunification sites, and secondary
36 transportation agreements consistent with the school mapping
37 information system; and

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

1 (4) To the extent funds are available, school districts shall
2 annually record and report on the information and activities required
3 in subsection (3) of this section to the Washington association of
4 sheriffs and police chiefs.

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

9 (6) Schools shall conduct no less than one safety-related drill
10 each month that school is in session. Schools shall complete no less
11 than one drill using the school mapping information system, three
12 drills for lockdowns, one drill for earthquake safety that includes
13 drop, cover, and hold, one drill for shelter-in-place, three drills
14 for fire evacuation in accordance with the state fire code, and one
15 other safety-related drill to be determined by the school. Schools
16 should consider drills for ((~~earthquakes, tsunamis, or~~)) other
17 high-risk local events. Schools in mapped tsunami hazard zones must
18 complete a pedestrian evacuation drill annually. Schools shall
19 document the date and time of such drills. This subsection is
20 intended to satisfy all federal requirements for comprehensive school
21 emergency drills and evacuations.

22 (7) Educational service districts are encouraged to apply for
23 federal emergency response and crisis management grants with the
24 assistance of the superintendent of public instruction and the
25 Washington emergency management division of the state military
26 department.

27 (8) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules to
28 implement provisions of this section. These rules may include, but
29 are not limited to, provisions for evacuations, lockdowns, or other
30 components of a comprehensive safe school plan.

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