

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 950 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: S3/24/15
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1653

By: Representatives Baltz, Cozart, C. Armstrong, E. Armstrong, Baine, Ballinger, Beck, Bennett, Bentley, Blake, Boyd, Branscum, Broadaway, Brown, Collins, Copeland, Davis, Deffenbaugh, Dotson, C. Douglas, D. Douglas, Eads, Eaves, Farrer, D. Ferguson, K. Ferguson, C. Fite, L. Fite, V. Flowers, Gates, Gonzales, Gossage, M.J. Gray, M. Gray, Hammer, Harris, Hickerson, G. Hodges, M. Hodges, Holcomb, Jean, Jett, Johnson, Ladyman, Lampkin, Leding, Lemons, Love, Lowery, Lundstrum, Magie, McElroy, G. McGill, McNair, D. Meeks, S. Meeks, Miller, Murdock, Nicks, B. Overbey, Payton, Petty, Ratliff, Richey, Richmond, Rushing, Sabin, Scott, Shepherd, B. Smith, Sorvillo, Speaks, Sturch, Talley, Tosh, Tucker, Vaught, Vines, Wallace, Wardlaw, D. Whitaker, Wright
By: Senators J. English, E. Cheatham, Elliott, Irvin, B. Johnson, D. Sanders, E. Williams

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE 2015 SCHOOL SAFETY ACT; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CREATE THE 2015 SCHOOL SAFETY ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §§ 6-15-1302 and 6-15-1303 are amended to read as follows:

6-15-1302. Emergency plans ~~for terrorist attacks~~ and panic button alert system requirements.

(a) ~~On or before January 1, 2004, every A school district shall develop plans to provide for the safety of employees and students in the event of a war or terrorist attack affecting the school, specifically including contingency plans for attacks using a biological agent or nerve gas or similar chemical agents.~~

(b) ~~To the extent practicable, students should participate in practice drills executing the plans~~ On or before September 1, 2015, a public school



shall have a panic button alert system, if funding is available.

(b) The panic button alert system shall:

(1) Connect the caller with 911 while simultaneously notifying designated on-site personnel;

(2)(A) Directly integrate into the existing statewide Smart911 system.

(B) Smart911 shall provide a way for a public school to geo-fence the school campus and provide and manage floor plans and other documents to assist emergency responders when they automatically display during a 911 call;

(3) Be available for use as a smartphone application and have a mechanism for panic notifications to be triggered by non-smartphone wireless callers and landline callers; and

(4) Be limited to users designated, approved, and confirmed by school administrators.

6-15-1303. Safe Schools Initiative Act.

(a) A school district shall develop a school safety plan and provide annual training for all of its employees and students, to the extent practicable, in preventing and responding to acts of violence, terrorism, ~~and~~ natural disaster, and other emergencies, including without limitation:

(1) Tornado safety drills under § 6-10-121;

(2) ~~Implementation of emergency~~ Emergency plans for terrorist attacks and panic button alert systems under § 6-15-1302; and

(3)(A) Annual active shooter drills and school safety assessments in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel for all schools, including a school lockdown exercise with panic button alert system training.

(B) The purpose of the training is to allow participants to:

(i) Discuss simulated emergency situations in a low-stress environment;

(ii) Clarify the roles and responsibilities of individuals and the logistics of handling an emergency on the school campus; and

(iii) Identify areas in which the school safety plan

should be modified.

(b)(1) On or before September 1, 2015, a school shall provide floor plans and pertinent emergency contact information to be used in connection with the panic button alert system through the statewide Smart911 system.

(2) Public school administration shall update the information as necessary, including when substantial building modifications or changes are made.

(3) Information provided under this subsection are not public records and are not available for public inspection.

(c)(1) Subject to an appropriation and funding for this purpose, the Criminal Justice Institute shall provide the necessary training and education for:

(A) Personnel designated by a school district or an education service cooperative concerning the active shooter drills required under this section through its Safe Schools Initiative; and

(B) Law enforcement officers, emergency management personnel, and other persons who will conduct the school safety assessments and active shooter drills on a school campus under this section.

(2)(A) The Safe Schools Initiative training for school personnel shall be hosted by an education service cooperative of which the school district is a constituent.

(B) The designated personnel who receive the Safe Schools Initiative training shall train other school employees and students.

(C) The Safe Schools Initiative training also may include without limitation the training and education needed to assist a public school in:

(i) Developing prevention strategies and enhancing existing crisis management plans for campus security and safety issues;

(ii) Delivering education to students and faculty on public safety and legal topics such as drugs and alcohol abuse, sexual assault, bullying and cyber-bullying, gangs, preventing the possession of weapons by minors, and responding to the threat of weapons at school;

(iii) Preparing school safety assessments; and

(iv) Cooperating effectively with law enforcement officers in the school setting.

(3) The following agencies or persons may conduct a school safety

assessment and active shooter drill for a school district after receiving training from the Criminal Justice Institute:

- (A) The Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy;
- (B) The Department of Arkansas State Police;
- (C) The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management;
- (D) The Black River Technical College Law Enforcement

Training Academy; or

(E) Other persons or entities identified on the Criminal Justice Institute's website as having received the training.

(4) Annual training and active shooter drills may be conducted during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods as determined by the school district.

~~(e)~~(d) Subject to an appropriation and funding for this purpose, each public school, in collaboration with the school district, may install communications equipment that is interoperable with the Arkansas Wireless Information Network system.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-78-228(b), concerning child care facility floor plans, is amended to read as follows:

(b) ~~No later than January 1, 2014,~~ a A child care facility licensed by the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education of the Department of Human Services under this subchapter or the Child Welfare Agency Licensing Act, § 9-28-401 et seq., shall file a copy of the child care facility's floor plan with the emergency management coordinator through the statewide Smart911 system for the local office of emergency management or the inter-jurisdictional office of emergency management that serves the area where the child care facility is located within:

- (1) Thirty (30) days of receiving a license; and
- (2) Thirty (30) days of a change or modification to the floor

plan.

/s/Baltz

APPROVED: 04/02/2015