

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

SENATE BILL 249

By: Senator Irvin

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING TORNADO SAFETY DRILLS; TO REQUIRE EARTHQUAKE SAFETY DRILLS IN CERTAIN AREAS; TO TRANSFER THE REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT TORNADO SAFETY DRILLS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE EARTHQUAKE SAFETY DRILLS IN CERTAIN AREAS; AND TO TRANSFER THE REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT TORNADO SAFETY DRILLS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-121 is amended to read as follows:

6-10-121. Tornado and earthquake safety drills – Definition.

(a)(1) As used in this section, “public school” means:

(A) A school that is part of a public school district under the control and management of a local school district board of directors; or

(B) An open-enrollment public charter school.

(2) “Public school” includes the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts, the Arkansas School for the Deaf, the Arkansas School for the Blind, and juvenile detention centers.



(b) ~~The Director of the Division of Emergency Management~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall require all public schools to conduct ~~tornado~~;

(1) Tornado safety drills not less than three (3) times per year ~~in the months of September, January, and February; and~~

(2) Earthquake safety drills in areas susceptible to earthquakes.

APPROVED: 3/24/21