

HB 3584 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Gelser Blouin

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 05/04/23

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 5-0-1-1

Yeas: 5 - Anderson, Dembrow, Frederick, Gelser Blouin, President Wagner

Exc: 1 - Weber

Abs: 1 - Robinson

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/18, 5/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires school district boards to adopt policy for notifying parents, guardians, and school employees when school initiates lockdown, lockout, shelter in place, or evacuation in response to safety threat. Establishes required elements for policy.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Training for school administrators on effective communication
- Potential for misinformation without official notification

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Several other states require parental notification in the event of an emergency. [Louisiana House Bill 498 \(2018\)](#) required school crisis management and response plans to provide for parental notification in the event of a shooting or other violent incident or emergency situation. [Texas Education Code 37.108](#) requires that school districts adopt and implement a multi-hazard emergency operations plan that includes "provisions for providing immediate notification to parents, guardians, and other persons standing in parental relation in circumstances involving a significant threat to the health or safety of students, including identification of the individual with responsibility for overseeing the notification." In Washington, [RCW 28A.320.125](#) requires that school districts adopt a safe school plan that includes "a family-student reunification plan, including procedures for communicating the reunification plan to staff, students, families, and emergency responders."

The Oregon Department of Education requires school districts to maintain a comprehensive safety program for all students and employees, including plans for responding to emergency situations ([OAR 581-022-2225](#)).

House Bill 3584 requires school district boards to adopt a policy for notifying parents, guardians, and school employees when school initiates emergency procedures in response to a safety threat.