

Enrolled
House Bill 2902

Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG, Senator MANNING JR; Representatives ANDERSEN, EVANS, GRAYBER, RUIZ, WRIGHT, Senators ANDERSON, WEBER (Pre-session filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to school emergency preparedness; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 336.071.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 336.071 is amended to read:

336.071. (1) All schools are required to instruct and drill students on emergency procedures so that the students can respond to an emergency without confusion or panic. The emergency procedures shall include drills and instruction on:

- (a) Fires;
- (b) Earthquakes, which shall include tsunami drills and instruction in schools in a tsunami hazard zone; and
- (c) Safety threats.

(2)(a) Drills and instruction on fire emergencies shall include routes and methods of exiting the school building.

(b) Drills and instruction on earthquake emergencies shall include the earthquake emergency response procedure known as “drop, cover and hold on.” A school may drill earthquake emergency response procedures in addition to “drop, cover and hold on” when the school determines, based on evaluation of specific engineering and structural issues related to a building, that “drop, cover and hold on” may not be the most effective earthquake emergency response procedure to prevent or limit injury or loss of life.

(c) Drills and instruction on tsunami emergencies shall include immediate evacuation after an earthquake when appropriate or after a tsunami warning to protect students against inundation by tsunamis.

(d) Drills and instruction on safety threats shall include:

- (A) Procedures related to lockdown, lockout, shelter in place and evacuation; and
- (B) Other appropriate actions to take when there is a threat to safety.

(3)(a) At least 30 minutes in each school month shall be used to instruct students on the emergency procedures described in subsection (1) of this section.

- (b) At least two drills on earthquakes shall be conducted each year.
- (c) At least two drills on safety threats shall be conducted each year.

(d) In schools in a tsunami hazard zone, at least three drills on earthquakes and tsunamis shall be conducted each year.

(4)(a) In addition to the instruction required under subsection (3) of this section, schools are encouraged to instruct students, in an age-appropriate manner, on preparing for and recovering from events that are:

(A) Described in subsection (1) of this section; and
(B) Natural disasters specific to the region where the school is located, including any relevant weather-related events such as flooding, drought or excessive snowfall.

(b) For the purpose of this subsection, the Department of Education shall:

(A) Develop, in consultation with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, guidance that may be used for the instruction and make the guidance available to school districts; and

(B) Provide, when requested, professional development to teachers and administrators relating to the guidance.

[(4)] (5) All schools shall maintain all exit doors so that the doors can be opened from the inside without a key during school hours.

[(5)] (6) Units of local government and state agencies associated with emergency procedures training and planning shall:

- (a) Review emergency procedures proposed by schools; and
- (b) Assist schools in the instruction and drilling of students in emergency procedures.

[(6)] (7) As used in this section, "school" means any:

- (a) Kindergarten through grade 12 public or private school; or
- (b) Educational institution having an average daily attendance of 50 or more students.

SECTION 2. (1) The amendments to ORS 336.071 by section 1 of this 2023 Act become operative on July 1, 2024.

(2) The amendments to ORS 336.071 by section 1 of this 2023 Act first apply to the 2024-2025 school year.

(3) Notwithstanding the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section, the Department of Education may take any action before the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for a school district to provide instruction described in ORS 336.071 (4), as amended by section 1 of this 2023 Act, during the 2024-2025 school year.

Passed by House March 14, 2023

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Dan Rayfield, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 21, 2023

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2023

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2023

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Tina Kotek, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2023

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Secretary of State