

House Bill 3584

Sponsored by Representative RUIZ, Senators WEBER, DEMBROW, Representative HELFRICH; Representatives CATE, HARTMAN, LEVY B, LEVY E, MORGAN

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs schools or school districts to provide electronic communication to parents and guardians of students attending, and to school district employees employed at, school at which safety threat action occurred. Prescribes requirements of communication.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to responses to safety threats in schools; creating new provisions; and amending ORS
3 336.071.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "safety threat action" means a lockdown, lock-**
6 **out, shelter in place or evacuation that:**

7 (a) **Is initiated by a school in response to a safety threat; and**

8 (b) **Is not a planned drill.**

9 (2) **Each school district board shall adopt a policy for notifying the school community**
10 **when a school takes a safety threat action.**

11 (3) **The policy adopted under this section must require that:**

12 (a) **As expediently as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the initiation of a safety**
13 **threat action, a school or school district shall provide an electronic communication to par-**
14 **ents and guardians of students attending the school at which the safety threat action oc-**
15 **curred. The communication must include:**

16 (A) **A general description of the issue that caused the safety threat action to be taken;**

17 (B) **The duration of time that the safety threat action was taken, from when the action**
18 **was initiated until when it concluded;**

19 (C) **Actions taken by the school or school district to resolve the situation that caused the**
20 **safety threat action and actions taken to protect student safety; and**

21 (D) **An explanation of how the situation was resolved.**

22 (b) **The communication required under paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be provided**
23 **in a manner that communicates relevant facts and details as may be necessary or useful:**

24 (A) **For parents and guardians to understand any potential threats to student safety; and**

25 (B) **To assist parents and guardians in helping students understand and mentally process**
26 **the incident and any resulting trauma.**

27 (c) **The communication required under paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be provided**
28 **and made available in culturally appropriate languages to communicate effectively with par-**
29 **ents and guardians of students of the school or school district.**

30 (d) **As expediently as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the initiation of a safety**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **threat action, a school or school district shall provide an electronic communication to school**
 2 **district employees who are employees of the school at which the safety threat action oc-**
 3 **curring. The communication required under this paragraph must include the same informa-**
 4 **tion described in paragraph (a) of this subsection and any additional information as may be**
 5 **permitted by relevant confidentiality and privacy requirements.**

6 **SECTION 2.** ORS 336.071 is amended to read:

7 336.071. (1) All schools are required to instruct and drill students on emergency procedures so
 8 that the students can respond to an emergency without confusion or panic. The emergency proce-
 9 dures shall include drills and instruction on:

10 (a) Fires;

11 (b) Earthquakes, which shall include tsunami drills and instruction in schools in a tsunami haz-
 12 ard zone; and

13 (c) Safety threats.

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

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

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

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

26 (A) Procedures related to lockdown, lockout, shelter in place and evacuation, **including the**
 27 **procedures described in section 1 of this 2023 Act;** and

28 (B) Other appropriate actions to take when there is a threat to safety.

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

31 (b) At least two drills on earthquakes shall be conducted each year.

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

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

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

37 (5) Units of local government and state agencies associated with emergency procedures training
 38 and planning shall:

39 (a) Review emergency procedures proposed by schools; and

40 (b) Assist schools in the instruction and drilling of students in emergency procedures.

41 (6) As used in this section, “school” means any:

42 (a) Kindergarten through grade 12 public or private school; or

43 (b) Educational institution having an average daily attendance of 50 or more students.

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