

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Barker
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Winters

Revenue:

Fiscal: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure as Amended and Be Printed B-Engrossed

Vote:

House

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

Prepared By: Kim To, Legislative Analyst

Meeting Date: March 3, 2014

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes the 14-member Task Force on School Safety charged with: (1) developing a request for proposals for hiring a vendor to create an Internet accessible database of floor plans for all schools within the state; and (2) examining models of existing school safety and incident response education and training programs for first responders and school administration officials. The task force is required to submit a report regarding the floor plan database to the Legislature by September 1, 2014. The bill takes effect on passage, and sunsets on the date of the convening of the 2017 Legislative Assembly. Requires State Police, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, to develop coordinated statewide school safety and incident response education and training curriculum for first responders and school administration officials. Appropriates General Fund to the State Police for this purpose.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of common language and protocol in crisis situations.
- Security of floor plans.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes the requirement to develop coordinated statewide school safety and incident response education and training curriculum for first responders and school administration officials; and removes the appropriation to the State Police for this purpose.

BACKGROUND: Schools and first responders around the state may not always be on the same page when it comes to planning coordinated incident response; may or may not be sharing information with each other or with other jurisdictions or with other states; may or may not be in agreement as to best practices; and may be in various stages of completion of such planning, school by school, agency by agency.

This task force is intended to be a starting point for a collaborative effort to develop a comprehensive approach to threat assessment and consequence management for schools in Oregon. Each and every school within the state faces a variety of threats ranging from natural hazards, such as floods and tornadoes, to fires, to hazardous materials spills, to active shooter threats such as those experienced at Columbine High School and Virginia Tech University. It is important that school communities and first responders be aware of these threats and is prepared to manage any contingency that presents itself.