House Bill 2229
Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG, Senator ROBLAN; Representatives MCKEOWN, NOSSE, PILUSO, SANCHEZ (at the request of former Representative Deborah Boone) (Presession filed.)

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.

Requires school districts to provide instruction and drills on how to prepare for and survive after natural disaster.

Directs Department of Education to develop curriculum relating to earthquake and tsunami safety. Requires school districts to implement curriculum unless districts provide written notice to State Resilience Officer.

 Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to emergency preparedness education; creating new provisions; amending ORS 336.071; and declaring an emergency.

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 and instruct students on emergency procedures so that the students can prepare for and respond to an emergency and the immediate effects of an emergency without confusion or panic.

(2) [The emergency procedures shall include] Drills and instruction shall be provided on the following emergency procedures:

(a) Fires;

(b) Earthquakes, which shall include tsunami drills and instruction in schools in a tsunami hazard zone; [and]

(c) Safety threats[.]; and

(d) Natural disasters.

[(2)(a)] (3)(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

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.

LC 202
(B) Other appropriate actions to take when there is a threat to safety.

(e) Drills and instruction on natural disasters shall address preparation for a natural disaster and survival in the days and weeks after a natural disaster, including addressing water shortages. Schools shall provide drills and instruction on natural disasters that include floods and heavy snow.

(4)(a) In addition to the drills and instruction on emergency procedures described in subsection (2)(b) of this section, each school district shall provide age-appropriate instruction on earthquake and tsunami safety.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, a school district may decline to provide instruction on earthquake and tsunami safety by providing written notice to the State Resilience Officer prior to the beginning of each school year. Nothing in this paragraph allows a school district to not provide drills and instruction on emergency procedures related to earthquakes and tsunamis as required under subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(c) The Department of Education shall develop curriculum related to earthquake and tsunami safety and make the curriculum available to school districts for the purpose of providing instruction under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

[(3)(a)] [(5)(a)] At least [30 minutes] four hours in each school [month] year shall be used [to instruct students on the emergency procedures] for drills and instruction on emergency procedures described in subsection [(I)] (2) of this section and the instruction described in subsection (4) 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)] [(6)] All schools shall maintain all exit doors so that the doors can be opened from the inside without a key during school hours.

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

(a) Review drills and instruction on emergency procedures proposed by schools; and

(b) Assist schools in the drills and instruction [and drilling] of students [in] on emergency procedures.

[(6)] [(8)] 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. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of $______, which may be expended for developing and distributing the curriculum described in ORS 336.071 (4)(c).

SECTION 3. (1) The amendments to ORS 336.071 by section 1 of this 2019 Act become operative on July 1, 2020.

(2) The amendments to ORS 336.071 by section 1 of this 2019 Act first apply to the 2020-2021 school year.

(3) The Department of Education may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the department to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties,
functions and powers conferred on the department by ORS 336.071 (4)(c).

SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect July 1, 2019.