House Bill 3101

Sponsored by Representatives LEVY E, BOWMAN

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 schools to have at least one panic alarm in each school building.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to school safety; 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) As used in this section:

(a) “Panic alarm” means a security system signal used by a school that:

(A) Is not audible within a school building;

(B) Is generated by the manual activation of a device or the manual activation of a signal through electronic means;

(C) Is used when there is a perceived safety threat within the school building; and

(D) Is immediately sent to law enforcement to indicate that there is a potentially life-threatening or emergency situation that requires a response from law enforcement.

(b) “School” means any:

(A) Kindergarten through grade 12 public or private school, including a public charter school; or

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

(c) “School building” means any building that is regularly used by a school to provide educational services to students in kindergarten through grade 12 or any combination of those grade levels.

(2) Every school is required to have emergency safeguards to protect the safety and well-being of students and staff at the school. The emergency safeguards must include, at a minimum:

[(I)] (a) [All schools are required to instruct and drill students] Drills and instruction on emergency procedures so that [the] students can respond to an emergency without confusion or panic.

(b) At least one panic alarm in each school building.

(3) The [emergency procedures shall include] drills and instruction required by this section must be on:

(a) Fires;

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

(c) Safety threats.

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.

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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.

(5)(a) At least 30 minutes in each school month shall be used to instruct students on the emergency procedures for emergencies described in subsection [(1) (3) 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.

(6) All schools shall maintain all exit doors so that the doors can be opened from the inside without a key during school hours and shall ensure that all panic alarms are maintained and in working order.

(7) 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.

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.