

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H3/14/17 H3/23/17*

2 91st General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2017

HOUSE BILL 1897

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5 By: Representative Baltz

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## For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO REQUIRE STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF

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HIGHER EDUCATION TO OFFER TO THEIR STUDENTS A PANIC

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BUTTON ALERT SYSTEM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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## Subtitle

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TO REQUIRE STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS

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OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO OFFER TO THEIR

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STUDENTS A PANIC BUTTON ALERT SYSTEM.

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 1, is amended

22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 6-61-139. Panic button alert systems.

24 (a) Beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year, a state-supported

25 institution of higher education may offer to its students, employees, and

26 other personnel a panic button alert system that:

27 (1) Connects the user in real time with designated individuals,

28 with the ability of contacting a live 911 operator;

29 (2)(A) Directly integrates into the existing statewide Smart911

30 system.

31 (B) The Smart911 system shall provide a way for a state-

32 supported institution of higher education to geofence the campus and provide

33 the GPS location to assist emergency responders by automatically displaying

34 during a 911 call;

35 (3) Is available for use on and off campus as a smartphone

36 application and has a mechanism for panic notifications to be triggered by



1 non-smartphone wireless callers and landline callers or automatic alert  
2 features in the event the user is unable to respond; and

3 (4) Has geotracking capability that can determine the location  
4 and movements of the person who engaged the *panic button alert* system.

5 (b) A state-supported institution of higher education may provide  
6 information to its students, employees, and other personnel to educate the  
7 students, employees, and other personnel on:

8 (1) The use of the *panic button alert* system; and

9 (2) How and where to obtain the *panic button alert* system.

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11 /s/Baltz  
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14 **APPROVED: BECAME LAW ON 04/07/2017 WITHOUT THE GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE.**  
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