

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 249

5 By: Senator Irvin  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING TORNADO SAFETY DRILLS; TO REQUIRE  
9 EARTHQUAKE SAFETY DRILLS IN CERTAIN AREAS; TO  
10 TRANSFER THE REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT TORNADO SAFETY  
11 DRILLS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY  
12 MANAGEMENT TO THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND  
13 SECONDARY EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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16 TO REQUIRE EARTHQUAKE SAFETY DRILLS IN  
17 CERTAIN AREAS; AND TO TRANSFER THE  
18 REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT TORNADO SAFETY  
19 DRILLS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION  
20 OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO THE DIVISION  
21 OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.  
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-10-121 is amended to read as follows:  
28 6-10-121. Tornado and earthquake safety drills – Definition.

29 (a)(1) As used in this section, “public school” means:

30 (A) A school that is part of a public school district  
31 under the control and management of a local school district board of  
32 directors; or

33 (B) An open-enrollment public charter school.

34 (2) “Public school” includes the Arkansas School for  
35 Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts, the Arkansas School for the Deaf, the  
36 Arkansas School for the Blind, and juvenile detention centers.



1 (b) ~~The Director of the Division of Emergency Management~~ Division of  
2 Elementary and Secondary Education shall require all public schools to  
3 conduct ~~tornado~~;

4 (1) Tornado safety drills not less than three (3) times per year  
5 ~~in the months of September, January, and February; and~~

6 (2) Earthquake safety drills in areas susceptible to  
7 earthquakes.

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10 **APPROVED: 3/24/21**  
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