

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1653

4
5 By: Representatives Baltz, Cozart, C. Armstrong, E. Armstrong, Baine, Ballinger, Beck, Bennett,
6 Bentley, Blake, Boyd, Branscum, Broadaway, Brown, Collins, Copeland, Davis, Deffenbaugh, Dotson, C.
7 Douglas, D. Douglas, Eads, Eaves, Farrer, D. Ferguson, K. Ferguson, C. Fite, L. Fite, V. Flowers, Gates,
8 Gonzales, Gossage, M.J. Gray, M. Gray, Hammer, Harris, Hickerson, G. Hodges, M. Hodges, Holcomb,
9 Jean, Jett, Johnson, Ladyman, Lampkin, Leding, Lemons, Love, Lowery, Lundstrum, Magie, McElroy, G.
10 McGill, McNair, D. Meeks, S. Meeks, Miller, Murdock, Nicks, B. Overbey, Payton, Petty, Ratliff,
11 Richey, Richmond, Rushing, Sabin, Scott, Shepherd, B. Smith, Sorvillo, Speaks, Sturch, Talley, Tosh,
12 Tucker, Vaught, Vines, Wallace, Wardlaw, D. Whitaker, Wright
13 By: Senators J. English, E. Cheatham, Elliott, Irvin, B. Johnson, D. Sanders, E. Williams
14

For An Act To Be Entitled

15 AN ACT TO CREATE THE 2015 SCHOOL SAFETY ACT; AND FOR
16 OTHER PURPOSES.
17

Subtitle

18 TO CREATE THE 2015 SCHOOL SAFETY ACT.
19
20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
22
23

24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §§ 6-15-1302 and 6-15-1303 are amended to
25 read as follows:

26 6-15-1302. Emergency plans ~~for terrorist attacks and panic button alert~~
27 system requirements.
28

29 (a) ~~On or before January 1, 2004, every A school district shall develop~~
30 ~~plans to provide for the safety of employees and students in the event of a~~
31 ~~war or terrorist attack affecting the school, specifically including~~
32 ~~contingency plans for attacks using a biological agent or nerve gas or~~
33 ~~similar chemical agents.~~
34

35 (b) ~~To the extent practicable, students should participate in practice~~
36 ~~drills executing the plans~~ On or before September 1, 2015, a public school



1 shall have a panic button alert system.

2 (b) The panic button alert system shall:

3 (1) Connect the caller with 911 while simultaneously notifying
 4 designated on-site personnel;

5 (2)(A) Directly integrate into the existing statewide Smart911
 6 system.

7 (B) Smart911 shall provide a way for a public school to
 8 geo-fence the school campus and provide and manage floor plans and other
 9 documents to assist emergency responders when they automatically display
 10 during a 911 call;

11 (3) Be available for use as a smartphone application and have a
 12 mechanism for panic notifications to be triggered by non-smartphone wireless
 13 callers and landline callers; and

14 (4) Be limited to users designated, approved, and confirmed by
 15 school administrators.

16
 17 6-15-1303. Safe Schools Initiative Act.

18 (a) A school district shall develop a school safety plan and provide
 19 annual training for all of its employees and students, to the extent
 20 practicable, in preventing and responding to acts of violence, terrorism, ~~and~~
 21 natural disaster, and other emergencies, including without limitation:

22 (1) Tornado safety drills under § 6-10-121;

23 (2) ~~Implementation of emergency~~ Emergency plans for terrorist
 24 ~~attacks and panic button alert systems~~ under § 6-15-1302; and

25 (3)(A) Annual active shooter drills and school safety assessments
 26 in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency management
 27 personnel for all schools, including a school lockdown exercise with panic
 28 button alert system training.

29 (B) The purpose of the training is to allow participants
 30 to:

31 (i) Discuss simulated emergency situations in a low-
 32 stress environment;

33 (ii) Clarify the roles and responsibilities of
 34 individuals and the logistics of handling an emergency on the school campus;
 35 and

36 (iii) Identify areas in which the school safety plan

1 should be modified.

2 (b)(1) On or before September 1, 2015, a school shall provide floor
3 plans and pertinent emergency contact information to be used in connection
4 with the panic button alert system through the statewide Smart911 system.

5 (2) Public school administration shall update the information as
6 necessary, including when substantial building modifications or changes are
7 made.

8 (3) Information provided under this subsection are not public
9 records and are not available for public inspection.

10 (c)(1) Subject to an appropriation and funding for this purpose, the
11 Criminal Justice Institute shall provide the necessary training and education
12 for:

13 (A) Personnel designated by a school district or an
14 education service cooperative concerning the active shooter drills required
15 under this section through its Safe Schools Initiative; and

16 (B) Law enforcement officers, emergency management
17 personnel, and other persons who will conduct the school safety assessments
18 and active shooter drills on a school campus under this section.

19 (2)(A) The Safe Schools Initiative training for school personnel
20 shall be hosted by an education service cooperative of which the school
21 district is a constituent.

22 (B) The designated personnel who receive the Safe Schools
23 Initiative training shall train other school employees and students.

24 (C) The Safe Schools Initiative training also may include
25 without limitation the training and education needed to assist a public
26 school in:

27 (i) Developing prevention strategies and enhancing
28 existing crisis management plans for campus security and safety issues;

29 (ii) Delivering education to students and faculty on
30 public safety and legal topics such as drugs and alcohol abuse, sexual
31 assault, bullying and cyber-bullying, gangs, preventing the possession of
32 weapons by minors, and responding to the threat of weapons at school;

33 (iii) Preparing school safety assessments; and

34 (iv) Cooperating effectively with law enforcement
35 officers in the school setting.

36 (3) The following agencies or persons may conduct a school safety

1 assessment and active shooter drill for a school district after receiving
 2 training from the Criminal Justice Institute:

- 3 (A) The Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy;
- 4 (B) The Department of Arkansas State Police;
- 5 (C) The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management;
- 6 (D) The Black River Technical College Law Enforcement

7 Training Academy; or

8 (E) Other persons or entities identified on the Criminal
 9 Justice Institute’s website as having received the training.

10 (4) Annual training and active shooter drills may be conducted
 11 during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods as
 12 determined by the school district.

13 ~~(e)~~(d) Subject to an appropriation and funding for this purpose, each
 14 public school, in collaboration with the school district, may install
 15 communications equipment that is interoperable with the Arkansas Wireless
 16 Information Network system.

17
 18 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-78-228(b), concerning child care
 19 facility floor plans, is amended to read as follows:

20 (b) ~~No later than January 1, 2014,~~ a A child care facility licensed by
 21 the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education of the Department of
 22 Human Services under this subchapter or the Child Welfare Agency Licensing
 23 Act, § 9-28-401 et seq., shall file a copy of the child care facility’s floor
 24 plan with the emergency management coordinator through the statewide Smart911
 25 system for the local office of emergency management or the inter-
 26 jurisdictional office of emergency management that serves the area where the
 27 child care facility is located within:

- 28 (1) Thirty (30) days of receiving a license; and
- 29 (2) Thirty (30) days of a change or modification to the floor

30 plan.