

By Senator Cruz

18-00697B-20

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to emergency drills in public schools;
3 amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; revising district school
4 board duties relating to emergency drills for active
5 shooter and hostage situations; expanding requirements
6 for district school board procedures relating to
7 drills for active shooter and hostage situations;
8 requiring district school boards to establish
9 procedures to provide advance notification of drills
10 for active shooter and hostage situations to parents
11 and to provide parents with an option to excuse their
12 students from physical drills; providing that such
13 procedures must allow for students to elect to remain
14 on school premises during physical drills and remain
15 excused from physical drills; providing an effective
16 date.

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18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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20 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
21 1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) is
22 added to that subsection, to read:

23 1006.07 District school board duties relating to student
24 discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall
25 provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the
26 attendance and control of students at school, and for proper
27 attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the
28 welfare of students, including:

29 (4) EMERGENCY DRILLS; EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.—

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30 (a) Formulate and prescribe policies and procedures, in
31 consultation with the appropriate public safety agencies, for
32 emergency drills and for actual emergencies, including, but not
33 limited to, fires, natural disasters, active shooter and hostage
34 situations, and bomb threats, for all students and faculty at
35 all public schools of the district comprised of grades K-12.

36 1. Drills for active shooter and hostage situations shall
37 be conducted in accordance with developmentally appropriate and
38 age-appropriate procedures ~~at least as often as other emergency~~
39 ~~drills.~~ Procedures relating to drills for active shooter and
40 hostage situations must be developed through consultation with
41 at least one mental health professional and be consistent with
42 the best practice considerations provided by the National
43 Association of School Psychologists.

44 2. District school board policies shall include commonly
45 used alarm system responses for specific types of emergencies
46 and verification by each school that drills have been provided
47 as required by law and fire protection codes. The emergency
48 response policy shall identify the individuals responsible for
49 contacting the primary emergency response agency and the
50 emergency response agency that is responsible for notifying the
51 school district for each type of emergency.

52 (d) Establish procedures to provide notification of drills
53 for active shooter and hostage situations to a student's parent
54 before a drill occurs and to provide the parent with the option
55 to excuse his or her student from any physical drills. The
56 procedures must also allow a student whose parent has excused
57 him or her from the physical drills to elect to remain on the
58 school premises during the physical drill and remain excused

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59 from the physical drill.

60 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.