

SB98 ENGROSSED



1 SB98
2 E8MB992-2
3 By Senators Orr, Hovey, Shelnut, Butler, Barfoot, Sessions,
4 Roberts, Givhan, Williams, Chambliss, Hatcher, Stewart,
5 Figures, Beasley, Allen, Kelley, Kitchens, Chesteen
6 RFD: Education Policy
7 First Read: 14-Feb-24



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public K-12 school safety and security; to create the School Security Program to require periodic inspections of school security of public K-12 schools and facilities; to require the State Board of Education to adopt rules to administer and implement the program and score local boards of education based on compliance with school security criteria; to create the School Security and Fire Safety Fund; to provide for grants for qualifying local boards of education; to establish the School Mapping Data Program and require ALEA to adopt rules to administer and implement that program; to provide criteria for school maps; and to provide for the distribution of school mapping data to certain law enforcement and public safety agencies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the School Security Act.

Section 2. For the purposes of this act, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) ALEA. The Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency.



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29 (2) BOARD. The State Board of Education.

30 (3) DEPARTMENT. The State Department of Education.

31 (4) SCHOOL. Any public K-12 school.

32 (5) SCHOOL FACILITY. Any building operated in
33 connection with a school including, but not limited to, those
34 housing classrooms, administration, or athletic facilities.

35 Section 3. (a) (1) There is established the School
36 Security Program. The board shall adopt rules to implement and
37 administer the program pursuant to this act.

38 (2) The board shall require that at least once every
39 five years, the school facilities under the jurisdiction of
40 each local board of education shall be inspected by at least
41 one school security inspector to determine the compliance of
42 the school facility and the local board of education with the
43 school security criteria established pursuant to subsection
44 (b).

45 (b) (1) The board shall establish criteria for school
46 security inspections. The criteria shall be established in
47 consultation with the department's regional school safety
48 coordinators and any other entities or individuals as
49 determined by the board. The criteria shall include a rubric
50 that school security inspectors must use to evaluate each
51 school facility during an inspection. The rubric shall
52 include, but not be limited to, standards for each of the
53 following:

54 a. Security cameras.

55 b. Alarm systems.

56 c. Locks on exterior and interior doors.



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57 d. Emergency escapes.

58 e. Any other physical measures used to strengthen the
59 security of school facilities and school grounds, including,
60 but not limited to, criteria related to intrusion detection,
61 fencing, and windows.

62 (2) The board shall periodically review and update the
63 criteria and rubric to ensure that both accurately reflect
64 current best practices relating to school security.

65 (c) Inspections under this chapter shall be completed
66 by one or more school security inspectors. The board shall
67 adopt rules relating to the selection of school security
68 inspectors. School security inspectors shall be neutral and
69 nonbiased individuals with some background experience relating
70 to school security or school facilities, as determined by the
71 board. Possible school security inspectors include, but are
72 not limited to, retired law enforcement officers. A regional
73 school safety coordinator may not be a school security
74 inspector but may attend school security inspections for the
75 purposes of reviewing the accuracy and currentness of school
76 security criteria and rubric.

77 (d) (1) Following an inspection, the school security
78 inspector who conducted the inspection shall provide each
79 school facility with a school security rubric score. The
80 school security inspector shall also provide each local board
81 of education that he or she inspects with a cumulative school
82 security rubric score and recommendations to improve school
83 security.

84 (2) A school security rubric score may be an A, B, C,



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85 D, or F. An "A" score shall indicate the highest level of
86 compliance with the school security criteria, while an "F"
87 score shall indicate a failure to comply.

88 (e) (1) The School Security and Fire Safety Fund is
89 created within the State Treasury.

90 (2)a. The board may award grants to local boards of
91 education to assist those local boards in complying with the
92 school security criteria established pursuant to subdivision
93 (b).

94 b. The board may award grants to local boards of
95 education to assist those local boards in complying with fire
96 safety recommendations made by the state Fire Marshal or his
97 or her assistants, as defined by Section 36-19-3, Code of
98 Alabama 1975.

99 (3) A local board of education that receives a grant
100 from the fund shall ensure that the expenditure of any grant
101 funds will be used to improve school facilities in compliance
102 with the state building code and rules adopted by the board,
103 including rules related to school facilities.

104 (4) The board shall develop an application form and
105 adopt procedures for the administration of the fund, including
106 for the development of application criteria. The board shall
107 prioritize schools with the most need as demonstrated through
108 the school security inspection rubric score and local boards
109 of education that have completed a facilities assessment
110 through the department's regional school safety training
111 program.

112 (5) Any monies appropriated shall be budgeted and



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113 allotted pursuant to the Budget Management Act in accordance
114 with Article 4, commencing with Section 41-4-80 of Chapter 4
115 of Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and only in the amounts
116 provided by the Legislature in the general appropriations act
117 or other appropriations act.

118 Section 4. (a) A School Mapping Data Program is
119 established within ALEA to provide accurate maps of each
120 school in the state for use in the case of an emergency. ALEA
121 shall adopt rules to implement and administer the program
122 pursuant to this act.

123 (b) (1) ALEA shall collaborate with local boards of
124 education to collect accurate mapping data for each school in
125 this state, subject to the appropriation of funds for this
126 purpose. School mapping data shall include accurate floor
127 plans of each school overlaid on current, verified aerial
128 imagery of the campus and shall meet all of the following
129 requirements:

130 a. Be oriented true north.

131 b. Be verified by the entity producing the data for
132 accuracy by a walk-through of school buildings and grounds.

133 c. Contain site-specific labeling that matches the
134 structure of school buildings, including room labels, hallway
135 names, and external door or stairwell numbers and locations of
136 hazards, critical utility locations, key boxes, automated
137 external defibrillators, and trauma kits.

138 d. Contain site-specific labeling that matches the
139 school grounds, including parking areas, athletic fields,
140 surrounding roads, and neighboring properties.



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141 e. Be overlaid with gridded x and y coordinates.

142 (2) Updates to school mapping data shall be completed
143 as deemed necessary by ALEA. Any updates to school mapping
144 data shall be accessible within software platforms used by the
145 local, county, state, and federal public safety agencies that
146 provide emergency services to the specific school.

147 (c) School mapping data shall be provided to each local
148 board of education, local law enforcement agency, and public
149 safety agency for use in response to emergencies. For the
150 purposes of this section, emergencies include, but are not
151 limited to, any event in which one or more law enforcement
152 officers, firefighters, rescue squads, emergency medical
153 services providers, public safety telecommunications, or other
154 emergency management provider may respond.

155 (d) (1) School mapping data shall be compatible with
156 software platforms used by local, county, state, and federal
157 public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the
158 school for which the data is provided. School mapping data
159 shall be compatible with security software platforms in use by
160 the public K-12 school for which the data is provided.

161 (2) School mapping data shall be available in a
162 printable format and, if requested by a public safety agency,
163 local law enforcement agency, or local board of education, be
164 in a digital format that may be integrated into interactive
165 mobile platforms in use.

166 (e) No entity including, but not limited to, a law
167 enforcement agency, local board of education, or public safety
168 agency, may be required to purchase additional software or pay



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169 a fee to view or access school mapping data through the School
170 Mapping Data Program.

171 Section 5. (a) School security rubric scores and school
172 mapping data, including any information or records used to
173 determine a score or develop mapping data, are confidential
174 and shall not be considered public records under Article 3 of
175 Chapter 12 of Title 36, Code of Alabama 1975.

176 (b) This act may not be considered as creating a
177 private right of action against a local board of education or
178 its officials or employees.

179 Section 6. This act shall become effective on October
180 1, 2024.



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183 Senate

184 Read for the first time and referred14-Feb-24
185 to the Senate committee on Education
186 Policy
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188 Read for the second time and placed21-Feb-24
189 on the calendar:
190 1 amendment
191
192 Read for the third time and passed02-Apr-24
193 as amended
194 Yeas 33
195 Nays 0
196 Abstains 0
197
198

199 Patrick Harris,
200 Secretary.
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