
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1507

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By House Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives Walsh and Kraft)

1 AN ACT Relating to promoting physical safety and security of
2 school buildings, grounds, and surroundings through environmental
3 design principles; amending RCW 28A.335.010; creating a new section;
4 and repealing RCW 28A.525.050.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that recent acts of
7 mass violence across the nation have threatened the safety of
8 children at school. Thus, the legislature intends to implement short
9 and long-term strategies that empower school districts to protect our
10 students and provide a safe and secure learning environment. The
11 legislature further intends to adopt policies that support our
12 schools and enable them to increase security, provide greater
13 protections for students and staff, and develop local strategies to
14 identify and intervene against potential threats. The legislature
15 finds that safety-focused design elements in the built environment
16 can reduce and deter criminal activity and increase safety.
17 Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to encourage the
18 incorporation of these design elements into the construction of
19 school facilities as a long-term strategy to reduce incidences of
20 violence and increase the safety of students and staff.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.335.010 and 2013 c 233 s 2 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) Every board of directors, unless otherwise specifically
4 provided by law, shall:

5 (a) Cause all school buildings to be properly heated, lighted,
6 and ventilated and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition; and

7 (b) Maintain and repair, furnish, and insure such school
8 buildings.

9 (2) Every board of directors, unless otherwise specifically
10 provided by law, shall also:

11 (a) Consider installing a perimeter security control mechanism or
12 system on all school campuses, as appropriate to the design of the
13 campus; and

14 (b) For new school construction projects or remodeling projects
15 of more than forty percent of an existing school building that are
16 initiated after July (~~28, 2013~~) 1, 2020, consider school building
17 plans and designs that promote:

18 (i) An optimal level of security for the specific school site
19 that incorporates evolving technology and best practices to protect
20 students and staff in the event of a threat during school hours;

21 (ii) Direct control and observation of the public entering school
22 grounds; (~~and~~)

23 (iii) The public entering school grounds through as few entrances
24 as possible, such as through the main entrance of a school's
25 administrative offices; and

26 (iv) Effective physical safety and security through natural
27 surveillances, natural access controls, and territorial
28 reinforcements, or other safety-focused environmental design
29 elements, while maintaining functional and aesthetic qualities of
30 school buildings, grounds, and surroundings.

31 (3) The purpose of subsection (2) of this section is to promote
32 generally the safety of all students and staff in Washington public
33 schools. Nothing in subsection (2) of this section creates any civil
34 liability for school districts, or creates a new cause of action or
35 new theory of negligence against a school district board of
36 directors, a school district, or the state.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.525.050 (Applications for aid—
2 Recommendations) and 2006 c 263 s 303 & 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.47.080
3 are each repealed.

--- **END** ---