HOUSE BILL 1284

State of Washington   **65th Legislature**   **2017 Regular Session**

By Representatives Lovick, Hayes, Orwall, Goodman, Springer, Sells, Blake, Ryu, Santos, Farrell, Reeves, Koster, Muri, Griffey, Tarleton, Appleton, Gregerson, and Fey

Read first time 01/16/17. Referred to Committee on Education.

1   AN ACT Relating to creating a statewide school emergency panic
2 button program; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.300 RCW.

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

4   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.300
5 RCW to read as follows:
6   (1) The legislature finds that the ability of school employees to
7 instantly communicate school emergencies to 911, first responders,
8 and other school employees is a paramount public safety objective.
9 Furthermore, the legislature finds that the personal mobile
10 telephones of school employees can be used to instantaneously provide
11 911, first responders, and other school employees with comprehensive
12 emergency information through the press of a button and without voice
13 communication. It is the intent of this section to have all school
14 districts replicate the goals of the panic button programs that are
15 currently operational in Snohomish county and to develop panic button
16 standards, efficiencies, and interoperability.
17   (2) By December 2017, the office of the superintendent of public
18 instruction must develop a statewide panic button program that will
19 be available to all school districts. At a minimum, the office of the
20 superintendent of public instruction must complete the following
21 activities when developing the statewide school panic button program:

1   (a) Secure a statewide contract with technology providers
2 necessary to operate a statewide panic button program;
3   (b) Assume the costs of having the technology implemented in all
4 school districts;
5   (c) Coordinate with 911 centers to facilitate implementing the
6 panic button technology in the school districts within their
7 jurisdiction, and assume any 911 center software costs necessary for
8 this purpose; and
9   (d) Develop panic button minimum standards that include, at a
10 minimum:
11   (i) Connecting the school employee to 911 while simultaneously
12 notifying designated on-site personnel and first responders;
13   (ii) Providing the location of the caller to 911 and first
14 responders;
15   (iii) Providing additional digital information to 911 or first
16 responders that would be of significant value to 911 or first
17 responders;
18   (iv) Ensuring interoperability between school districts and
19 public safety jurisdictions; and
20   (v) Facilitating necessary training among school employees and
21 first responders.
22   (3) Participation by school employees in a panic button program
23 is voluntary. Nothing in this section requires a school employee to
24 participate in the program or install a panic button application on
25 his or her personal mobile telephone without the employee's consent.

--- END ---