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**HOUSE BILL 1507**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Walsh and Kraft

Read first time 01/23/19. Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

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 and 28A.525.172; creating  
4 a new section; 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.

37       **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.525.172 and 2006 c 263 s 314 are each amended to  
38 read as follows:

1       (1) All applications by school districts for state assistance in  
2 providing school plant facilities shall be made to the superintendent  
3 of public instruction in conformity with rules adopted by the  
4 superintendent of public instruction, considering policy  
5 recommendations from the school facilities citizen advisory panel.

6       (2) Studies and surveys shall be conducted by the superintendent  
7 for the purpose of securing information relating to:

8       (a) ~~((1))~~ The kind and extent of the school plant facilities  
9 required and the urgency of need for such facilities in districts  
10 that seek state assistance~~((7))~~;

11       (b) ~~((2))~~ The ability of such districts to provide capital  
12 funds by local effort~~((7))~~;

13       (c) ~~((3))~~ The need for improvement of school administrative  
14 units and school attendance areas among or within such districts~~((7~~  
15 ~~and))~~;

16       (d) ~~((4))~~ An assessment of the safety and security of school  
17 buildings, grounds, and surroundings through:

18       (i) Natural surveillances that maximize natural visibility and  
19 observation to deter criminal activity;

20       (ii) Natural access controls that deny access to a crime target  
21 and reduce escape opportunities; and

22       (iii) Territorial reinforcements that create and extend a sphere  
23 of influence over school property; and

24       (e) Any other pertinent matters.

25       NEW SECTION.     **Sec. 4.**     RCW 28A.525.050 (Applications for aid—  
26 Recommendations) and 2006 c 263 s 303 & 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.47.080  
27 are each repealed.

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