



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 6846

LCO No. 5299



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CRISIS
RESPONSE DRILLS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

3 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall provide for [a fire
4 drill] two fire drills to be held in the schools of such board during the
5 school year, provided at least one of the fire drills is held not later than
6 thirty days after the first day of each school year. [and at least once each
7 month thereafter, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.]

8 (b) [Each such board shall substitute a crisis response drill for a fire
9 drill once every three months and shall develop the format of such crisis
10 response drill in consultation with the appropriate local law
11 enforcement agency. A representative of such agency may supervise
12 and participate in any such crisis response drill.] Each local and regional
13 board of education shall provide for one crisis response drill to be held
14 in the schools of such board during the school year. Each such crisis
15 response drill shall be conducted in accordance with the crisis response

16 protocols developed for the school pursuant to section 10-222n, as
17 amended by this act.

18 Sec. 2. Section 10-222n of the general statutes is repealed and the
19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

20 (a) Not later than January 1, 2014, the Department of Emergency
21 Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Department of
22 Education, shall develop school security and safety plan standards. Not
23 later than January 1, 2020, and every three years thereafter, the
24 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
25 consultation with the Department of Education, shall reevaluate and
26 update the school security and safety plan standards. The school
27 security and safety plan standards shall be an all-hazards approach to
28 emergencies at public schools and shall include, but not be limited to,
29 (1) involvement of local officials, including the chief executive officer of
30 the municipality, the superintendent of schools, law enforcement, fire,
31 public health, emergency management and emergency medical
32 services, in the development of school security and safety plans, (2) a
33 command center organization structure based on the federal National
34 Incident Management System and a description of the responsibilities
35 of such command center organization, (3) a requirement that a school
36 security and safety committee be established at each school, in
37 accordance with the provisions of section 10-222m, (4) crisis
38 management procedures, (5) a requirement that, [local law enforcement
39 and other local public safety officials evaluate, score and provide
40 feedback on fire drills and crisis response drills, conducted pursuant to
41 section 10-231] on and after July 1, 2023, all crisis response drills
42 conducted pursuant to section 10-231, as amended by this act, be in
43 accordance with the crisis response drill protocols described in
44 subsection (c) of this section, (6) a requirement that local and regional
45 boards of education annually submit reports to the Department of
46 Emergency Services and Public Protection regarding such fire drills and
47 crisis response drills, (7) procedures for managing various types of
48 emergencies, (8) a requirement that each local and regional board of
49 education conduct a security and vulnerability assessment for each

50 school under the jurisdiction of such board every two years and develop
51 a school security and safety plan for each such school, in accordance
52 with the provisions of section 10-222m, based on the results of such
53 assessment, (9) a requirement that the safe school climate committee for
54 each school, established pursuant to section 10-222k, collect and
55 evaluate information relating to instances of disturbing or threatening
56 behavior that may not meet the definition of bullying, as defined in
57 section 10-222d, and report such information, as necessary, to the district
58 safe school climate coordinator, described in section 10-222k, and the
59 school security and safety committee for the school, established
60 pursuant to section 10-222m, and (10) a requirement that the school
61 security and safety plan for each school provide an orientation on such
62 school security and safety plan to each school employee, as defined in
63 section 10-222d, at such school and provide violence prevention training
64 in a manner prescribed in such school security and safety plan. The
65 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall make
66 such standards available to local officials, including local and regional
67 boards of education, and the Department of Education shall distribute
68 such standards to all public schools within the state.

69 (b) Not later than January 1, 2014, and annually thereafter, the
70 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall submit
71 the school security and safety plan standards and any recommendations
72 for legislation regarding such standards to the joint standing
73 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
74 relating to public safety and education, in accordance with the
75 provisions of section 11-4a.

76 (c) For the school year commencing July 1, 2023, and each school year
77 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall develop, and
78 annually update, in consultation with the appropriate local law
79 enforcement agency, crisis response drill protocols to be implemented
80 as part of a crisis response drill conducted pursuant to section 10-231, as
81 amended by this act, for each of the schools under the jurisdiction of
82 such board. Such protocols shall be trauma-informed, created with
83 input from the administrators of each such school, and, include, but not

84 be limited to, a requirement that (1) notice be provided to the parents
 85 and guardians of students, educators, local law enforcement and other
 86 first responders of when the crisis response drill will be held, at least
 87 seven days in advance of such drill, (2) parents and guardians be given
 88 the option to opt their student out of participating in the crisis response
 89 drill, (3) accommodations are provided to students who have past-
 90 trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety or other relevant
 91 disabilities, (4) an age-appropriate explanation be delivered to the
 92 students of the school and that such explanation includes a description
 93 of what the crisis response drill is and how the school security and safety
 94 plan will be implemented during an actual emergency, (5) information
 95 be provided to students relating to the availability of mental health
 96 counseling for students, (6) a prohibition against the simulation of an
 97 active shooter in the school and crouching and huddling by students
 98 during the crisis response drill, and (7) a representative of the local law
 99 enforcement agency may supervise and participate in the crisis response
 100 drill.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-231
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-222n

Statement of Purpose:

To reduce the number and revise the manner in which crisis response drills are conducted in public schools in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]