



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6846

January Session, 2023



**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 Section 10-231 of the general statutes is repealed and the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
4 fire drill] two fire drills to be held in the schools of such board during
5 the school year, provided at least one of the fire drills is held not later
6 than thirty days after the first day of each school year, [and at least
7 once each month thereafter, except as provided in subsection (b) of this
8 section.]

9 (b) [Each such board shall substitute a crisis response drill for a fire
10 drill once every three months and shall develop the format of such
11 crisis response drill in consultation with the appropriate local law
12 enforcement agency. A representative of such agency may supervise
13 and participate in any such crisis response drill.] Each local and
14 regional board of education shall provide for one crisis response drill
15 to be held in the schools of such board during the school year. Each
16 such crisis response drill shall be conducted in accordance with the
17 crisis response protocols developed for the school pursuant to section
18 10-222n, as amended by this act.

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 Section 10-222n of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

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

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

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

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

102 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The Department of Emergency Services
103 and Public Protection, in consultation with the Department of
104 Education, shall conduct an evaluation of the efficacy and effectiveness
105 of the revisions pursuant to sections 10-222n and 10-231 of the general
106 statutes, as amended by this act, to the number and implementation of
107 fire drills and crisis response drills conducted pursuant to section 10-
108 231 of the general statutes, as amended by this act. In conducting such
109 evaluation, the department shall (1) review the annual reports
110 submitted by each local and regional board of education pursuant to
111 the school security and safety plans standards, as described in section
112 10-222n of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) analyze how
113 the results of the security and vulnerability assessments and school
114 security and safety plans for each board, developed pursuant to
115 section 10-222m of the general statutes, have been addressed and
116 revised following such revisions to the number and implementation of
117 fire drills and crisis response drills, and (3) assess the effectiveness of
118 how local and regional boards of education are conducting such crisis
119 response drills in accordance with the crisis response drill protocols

120 developed pursuant to section 10-222n of the general statutes, as
121 amended by this act. Not later than January 1, 2025, the department
122 shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
123 4a of the general statutes, on its findings, including any
124 recommendations for legislation, to the joint standing committee of the
125 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education.

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
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*