

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

H.P. 294 - L.D. 477

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Education, Maine School Safety Center to Convene a Stakeholder Group to Develop Best Practices for Lockdown Drills and Active Shooter Drills and Allowing Parents to Opt Out of Active Shooter Drills for Their Children**

**Sec. 1. Stakeholder group. Resolved:** That the Department of Education, Maine School Safety Center shall convene a stakeholder group to develop best practices for lockdown drills and active shooter drills implemented by school administrative units to minimize traumatic impact on students and school staff, including but not limited to representatives of:

1. The Maine School Superintendents Association;
2. The Maine School Boards Association;
3. The Maine Principals' Association;
4. The Maine Education Association;
5. The Maine Chiefs of Police Association;
6. The Maine State Parent Teacher Association;
7. The Maine Parent Federation;
8. The Maine School Counselor Association; and
9. The American Academy of Pediatrics, Maine Chapter.

By January 1, 2025, the department shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs on the work of the stakeholder group, specifically regarding the best practices for lockdown drills and active shooter drills and a plan for all school staff to be trained in their school administrative unit's emergency plan prior to January 1, 2026, but also including an evaluation of the effectiveness of the range of lockdown drills and active shooter drills as implemented by public schools at increasing safety, the traumatic impact of lockdown drills and active shooter drills on students and school staff, the number of school administrative units using best practices for lockdown drills and active shooter drills and other strategies to ensure students and school staff are prepared to respond to emergencies, including school

shootings. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the 132nd Legislature in 2025 to implement the recommendations of the stakeholder group.

**Sec. 2. Rule amendment. Resolved:** That the Department of Education shall amend its rule Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units, Section 5.17 to allow parents to opt out of active shooter drills for their children. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Maine School Safety Center Z293**

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for staffing and other related costs to support the work of the stakeholder group established to develop best practices for lockdown drills and active shooter drills implemented by school administrative units to minimize traumatic impact on students and school staff.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$5,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>