

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

—
H.P. 309 - L.D. 429

**An Act To Protect the Health of Students and Educators by Requiring School
Emergency Management Plans To Address Health and Safety**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1001, sub-§16, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 408, §1, is amended to read:

16. Comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan. Each school board shall annually approve a comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan developed by the school unit administration working with school teachers and staff and local, county and state public safety officials, fire-fighting personnel, emergency management officials, mental health officials ~~and~~ law enforcement officials, school nurses, physicians and public health staff to identify and deal with all hazards and potential hazards that could reasonably be expected to affect a facility or unit under the authority of the school administrative unit. The approval of a comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan under this subsection is public information. At the request of any school board member or full-time school employee, the school board shall form a steering committee composed of school employees, school board members, parents and others. A majority of the school employees must be chosen by the local representatives of the applicable bargaining unit if the school employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. The steering committee shall regularly review and refine the comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan. The following information pertaining to a comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan is public information:

- A. A description of the scope and purpose of the comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan and the process used for developing and updating the plan;
- B. General information on auditing for safety and preparedness;
- C. Roles and responsibilities of school administrators, teachers and staff and the designated chain of command during an emergency; and

D. Strategies for conveying information to parents and the general public during an emergency.

Except as provided in paragraphs A to D, release of the contents of a comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan approved under this subsection is subject to the limitations set forth in Title 1, section 402, subsection 3, paragraph L.