

By: Representatives Read, Bennett, Felsher,
Kinkade, Gibbs (72nd)

To: Education;
Appropriations

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 757

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
2 SHALL DEVELOP A STATEWIDE SCHOOL MOBILE PANIC BUTTON PROGRAM FOR
3 ALL K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND SHALL IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM IN ALL
4 K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOT LATER THAN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS AFTER
5 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT
6 MUST SECURE A STATEWIDE CONTRACT WITH A TECHNOLOGY PROVIDER TO
7 PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL ASSUME THE COSTS OF HAVING THE
8 SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTED IN ALL K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS, USING
9 FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THE LEGISLATURE FOR THAT PURPOSE; TO SPECIFY
10 THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE TECHNOLOGY PURCHASED BY THE
11 DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

13 **SECTION 1.** (1) The State Department of Education shall
14 develop a statewide school mobile panic button program meeting the
15 requirements of this section that will be available for all K-12
16 public schools. The department shall implement the statewide
17 school panic button program in all K-12 public schools not later
18 than one hundred twenty (120) days after the effective date of
19 this act.

20 (2) At a minimum, the department must complete the following
21 activities when developing the statewide school panic button
22 program:



23 (a) Secure a statewide contract with a technology
24 provider or providers as necessary to operate the statewide school
25 panic button program;

26 (b) If it is determined that the Department of
27 Information Technology or the Mississippi Emergency Management
28 Agency (MEMA) has the ability to administer and operate the
29 technology necessary for the school panic button problem, then
30 either agency shall be designated to individually or
31 collaboratively administer the program. If neither agency is
32 capable of operating the program, then the State Department of
33 Education shall select a provider using the state procurement
34 procedure; and

35 (c) Assume the costs of having the statewide school
36 panic button system technology implemented in all K-12 public
37 schools, using funds appropriated by the Legislature for that
38 purpose.

39 (3) The technology purchased by the department for the
40 statewide school panic button program must meet all of the
41 following standards:

42 (a) The system must be a mobile phone application-based
43 (app) system;

44 (b) The system must have the ability to be optionally
45 integrated with the local 911 public safety answering point (PSAP)
46 and be able to do all of the following:

47 (i) Place a standard voice call to 911;



- 48 (ii) Communicate with and allow 911 to send
49 follow-up messages;
- 50 (iii) Send SMS text messages, email and push
51 notifications to authorized on-site users, including teachers and
52 staff, while including key public safety personnel;
- 53 (iv) Actively monitor all 911 calls processed by
54 the local PSAP, including standard landline calls, mobile phone
55 calls and panic button app calls;
- 56 (v) Allow 911 or public safety officials to
57 convert a standard 911 call, landline call or mobile phone call
58 processed by the 911 system to a panic button event from within
59 the 911 call taking, dispatch and supervisory workflows;
- 60 (vi) Allow for 911 and public safety officials to
61 initiate panic button events and communications, allowing 911 to
62 declare a panic button event outside of a 911 call to facilitate
63 communications and coordination before, during and after an event;
64 and
- 65 (vii) Automatically present information from a
66 school to the 911 call taker, including floor plans and building
67 information, without further action by the 911 call taker when a
68 911 call from a landline, mobile phone or app activation occurs.
- 69 (c) The mobile app used in the system must contain at
70 least the following event categories:
- 71 (i) Active assailant/shooter;
- 72 (ii) Medical emergency;



- 73 (iii) Police;
74 (iv) Fire; and
75 (v) Other 911.

76 (d) The system must allow for the geo-fencing of a
77 school campus that generates a panic button notification inside
78 the school property and a regular 911 call outside the school
79 property; and

80 (e) The system must be United States Department of
81 Homeland Security Safety Act certified.

82 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after July 1, 2020.

