DIGEST

SB 442 Original   2024 Regular Session   Edmonds

Proposed law provides for the enhancement of school safety by making firearm detection computer software available that detects visible unlawful firearms on school campuses and that alerts local law enforcement agencies.

Proposed law provides legislative intent as follows:

(1)   That common sense, cost efficient methods are undertaken to prevent mass shooting incidents on elementary and secondary school campuses.

(2)   That protections provided by a school's security camera system is enhanced to include firearm detection computer software that detects visible unlawful firearms on school property and alerts local law enforcement agencies.

(3)   That support is given to law enforcement agencies with actionable and real-time information as they respond to alerts of unlawful firearms or active shooters on school campuses.

Proposed law requires the state Dept. of Education to solicit requests for proposals to provide one or more qualified vendors to assist each local elementary and secondary school in providing firearm detection computer software to enhance existing school security cameras in order to prevent mass shooting incidents on campuses. Requires that firearm detection computer software provide real-time information to local law enforcement with the respect to active shooters on school campuses.

Proposed law requires that the firearm detection computer software include all of the following:

(1)   A method of integrating the firearm detection software with existing security camera infrastructure at schools.

(2)   A constant monitoring operation that is staffed by highly trained analysts in order to rapidly communicate possible threats to school and law enforcement personnel.

(3)   Technology that is developed in the United States without the use of any third-party or open-source data.

(4)   A designation which establishes that the computer software program is qualified as anti-terrorism technology under the federal SAFETY Act.

(5)   A prohibition against the use of any facial recognition technology in order to protect the

privacy of any students, parents, or school personnel.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 17:416.16.1)