

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 442

BY SENATOR EDMONDS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Creates a program to provide firearm detection software that detects visible firearms on school property and alerts local law enforcement agencies. (8/1/24)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:416.16.1, relative to elementary and secondary school security; provides
3 assistance to each local elementary and secondary school to prevent mass shootings
4 on campus; provides for firearm detection computer software to enhance existing
5 school security cameras; to provide for real-time information to be sent to local law
6 enforcement with respect to an active shooter on a school campus; to provide for the
7 solicitation of proposals; to provide for the requirements of the firearm detection
8 computer software; to provide for legislative purposes; to provide for legislative
9 intent; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 17:416.16.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 **§416.16.1. Firearm detection computer software to detect visible firearms on**
13 **school property; notification of local law enforcement agencies**

14 **A. The purpose of this Section is to enhance school safety by making**
15 **firearm detection computer software available throughout elementary and**
16 **secondary schools in order to detect visible unlawful firearms on school**
17 **campuses and to alert local law enforcement agencies.**

1 **B. The legislature intends all of the following:**

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

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

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

10 **C.(1) The state Department of Education shall solicit requests for**
11 **proposals to provide one or more qualified vendors to do all the following:**

12 **(a) Assist each local elementary and secondary school in providing**
13 **firearm detection computer software to prevent mass shooting incidents on**
14 **campuses.**

15 **(b) Require that the firearm detection computer software program**
16 **provide real-time information to local law enforcement with the respect to**
17 **active shooters on school campuses.**

18 **(2) The components of the firearm computer software provided for in**
19 **this Section shall include all of the following:**

20 **(a) A method of integrating the firearm detection software with existing**
21 **security camera infrastructure at schools.**

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

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

27 **(d) A designation which establishes that the computer software program**
28 **is qualified as anti-terrorism technology under the federal SAFETY Act, 6**
29 **U.S.C. Sec. 441 et seq.**

- 1 **(e) A prohibition against the use of any facial recognition technology in**
2 **order to protect the privacy of any students, parents, or school personnel.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Carla S. Roberts.

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)