

**SUBJECT:** Requiring an active shooter emergency protocol and active shooter training

**COMMITTEE:** Public Education — committee substitute recommended

**VOTE:** 13 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, Dutton, M. González, K. King, Meyer, Sanford, Talarico, VanDeaver

0 nays

**WITNESSES:** For — CJ Grisham, Open Carry Texas; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Julie Hinaman, Community Leadership Committee; Stacye Anderson, Cy-Fair ISD Community Leadership Committee; Marcel McClinton, Houston Mayor's Commission to Prevent Gun Violence; Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association; Aimee Mobley Turney)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Megan Aghazadian and Melody Parrish, Texas Education Agency; Michael Antu, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement; Craig Schiebel)

**BACKGROUND:** Education Code sec. 37.108 requires that each school district or public junior college adopt and implement a multihazard emergency operations plan for use in the district's facilities. The plan must address mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery for certain emergency situations.

Occupations Code sec. 1701.263 requires a peace officer or a school resource officer who provides law enforcement in a school district with an enrollment of at least 30,000 students to complete an education and training program consisting of at least 16 hours of training and approved by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

Concerns have been raised that there is a need for increased preparedness of public school districts and law enforcement to keep students and teachers safe during an active shooter incident.

**DIGEST:** CSHB 2655 would require a school district to include in its multihazard emergency operations plan a protocol for responding to an active shooter emergency in a district facility. The protocol would have to include school drills and exercises to prepare for an active shooter emergency.

The commissioner of education, in consultation with a public institution of higher education that provided active shooter response training, would have to adopt rules providing the number and content of these mandatory school drills as soon as practicable.

The bill also would require a school district peace officer or school resource officer to complete an active shooter response training program approved by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

A school district peace officer or school resource officer who began employment with or began providing law enforcement at a school district prior to September 1, 2019, would be required to complete the training as soon as practicable after the bill's effective date but no later than August 31, 2020.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.