

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 901 (SB 450)

2026 Regular Session

Edmonds

Physical Security School Assessments

New law (R.S. 17:416.16.2) authorizes each public school, including each charter school, and nonpublic school to obtain a physical security school assessment upon a request made to the La. Fusion Center. Provides that the fusion center is the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, office of state police, La. State Analytical and Fusion Exchange.

New law requires the fusion center to conduct physical security school assessments only within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available for such purposes and only to the extent that personnel and resources are available for such purposes.

New law requires the fusion center, upon completion of an assessment, to provide a written report of its findings and options for consideration to the school's emergency response coordinator and principal. Prohibits a school from being required to implement such options for consideration. Authorizes a school to apply for grants provided for in existing law (R.S. 29:726.6) to implement such options. Provides that school security grant funding is to be prioritized to fund schools seeking to implement findings or options for consideration identified in the physical security school assessments.

New law requires the state Dept. of Education to post on its website regarding the availability of physical security school assessments.

Existing law (R.S. 44:3(A)(3)) prohibits public records disclosure of confidential security records and law enforcement reports that are held by law enforcement used to prevent terrorism and to protect public safety. Existing law (R.S. 44:.4.1) provides that certain documents held by schools are not subject to public records disclosure.

New law retains existing law and also provides that physical security school assessments and related materials that are produced to protect students from harm are subject to existing law that protects other security assessments from public records disclosure, whether the records are held by law enforcement or schools.

New law provides for definitions, scope, and required components of assessments, including the use of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and best practices.

New law provides immunity from liability for schools, school systems, governing authorities, the fusion center, and related personnel for actions or omissions related to the assessments or decisions regarding implementation of recommendations. New law further provides that such assessments do not create a legal duty or standard of care and do not establish an independent cause of action.

New law provides that physical security school assessments and related materials are confidential, privileged, and generally not subject to discovery or admissibility in civil or administrative proceedings.

New law provides a limited exception allowing a school or school governing authority to introduce an assessment into evidence as a defense in civil and administrative proceedings.

New law provides that substantial compliance with assessment recommendations creates a rebuttable presumption that the school property was not unreasonably dangerous and that reasonable care was exercised as it relates to the school security.

Reports of Threats of Violence and Threats of Terrorism

Existing law (R.S. 17:409.3) requires any school employee with knowledge of a threat of violence or threat of terrorism to immediately report the threat to a local law enforcement agency and, in certain cases, to the school administrator.

New law retains existing law.

New law requires a local law enforcement agency to which a report was made pursuant to existing law to report the threat to the fusion center within seven calendar days. New law provides that such reports are prohibited from including personally identifiable information. New law requires the fusion center to use the reports to collect data and analytics of threats of violence and threats of terrorism.

Existing law provides for immunity from liability for such reporting, except in cases of malicious or intentional false reporting.

New law retains existing law and further provides immunity from liability to a local law enforcement agency that fails to report a threat to the fusion center within seven calendar days.

New law provides that reports made to the fusion center are subject to existing law (R.S. 44:3(A)(3)) public records exemptions that protect reports sent to law enforcement or the fusion center as confidential security records used to prevent terrorism and to protect public safety.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:409.3(A) and (C), R.S. 29:726.6(B)(2), and R.S. 44:4.1(B)(9); adds R.S. 17:409.3(D) and (E) and 416.16.2)