

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 66

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SERENA DIMASO

District 13 (Monmouth)

Assemblywoman NANCY F. MUNOZ

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Space, Wirths and Assemblywoman Dunn

SYNOPSIS

Urges Attorney General and Department of Education to regularly update “Law Enforcement Directive No. 2007-1” and “School Safety and Security Manual: Best Practices Guidelines.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the Attorney General and the
2 Department of Education to update certain school security
3 guidance documents.
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5 **WHEREAS**, Ensuring a safe and protected learning environment for our
6 State’s school children is of paramount importance; and
7 **WHEREAS**, In the last several years, various State agencies, task
8 forces, and committees have issued reports and other documents
9 containing recommendations and guidance designed to improve the
10 safety and security of New Jersey’s schools; and
11 **WHEREAS**, In September 2004, the New Jersey Department of
12 Education issued the “School Safety and Security Manual: Best
13 Practices Guidelines” to assist schools in establishing security
14 measures including, but not limited to, convening school planning
15 teams; developing protocols for school building access control;
16 implementing school perimeter security measures; collaborating
17 with local law enforcement and government officials; and updating
18 school communications procedures and emergency plans; and
19 **WHEREAS**, The School Safety and Security Manual: Best Practices
20 Guidelines was updated and expanded in 2007 to incorporate
21 information on additional security topics, including site-specific
22 vulnerability assessments, target hardening and mitigation
23 measures, communication protocols, crisis response, and gang
24 awareness; and
25 **WHEREAS**, In July 2007, the Attorney General of New Jersey issued
26 “Law Enforcement Directive No. 2007-1,” which required every
27 law enforcement agency in the State to maintain policies and
28 procedures to enhance school security and safety in the subject
29 areas of bomb threats, active shooter response, school lockdowns,
30 school evacuations, and public information; and
31 **WHEREAS**, Following the issuance of Law Enforcement Directive No.
32 2007-1, model policies in each of the subject areas were distributed
33 to law enforcement agencies to assist them in implementing the
34 directive; and
35 **WHEREAS**, The Department of Education’s School Safety and Security
36 Manual: Best Practices Guidelines and the Attorney General’s Law
37 Enforcement Directive No. 2007-1 have not been subject to any
38 significant review or revision since 2007; and
39 **WHEREAS**, Given the vital importance of school safety and security in
40 today’s age, it is prudent for these documents to reflect the most
41 current information on best practices in school security for both
42 school personnel and law enforcement; and
43 **WHEREAS**, Ensuring that law enforcement officials and school
44 personnel are equipped with up-to-date information on best
45 practices for school security will assist in the prevention and
46 mitigation of school safety emergencies, as well as improving
47 response times when an emergency does occur; now, therefore,

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