

STATE OF NEW YORK

5489

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 6, 2023

Introduced by Sens. JACKSON, HARCKHAM, SKOUFIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring panic alarm systems in schools

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as "Alyssa's Law".
2 § 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 409-n to
3 read as follows:
4 § 409-n. Installation of panic alarm systems in schools. 1. As used in
5 this section, "panic alarm system" means a silent security system signal
6 generated by the manual activation of a device intended to signal a
7 life-threatening or emergency situation requiring a response from law
8 enforcement. Such silent security system may include one or more of the
9 following: wired panic button or buttons, wireless panic button or
10 buttons or a mobile or computer application.
11 2. Each public elementary and secondary school building shall be
12 equipped with a panic alarm system for use in a school security emergen-
13 cy including, but not limited to, a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, or
14 active shooter situation. The alarm shall be directly linked to local
15 law enforcement authorities or, in the case of a school building located
16 in a municipality in which there is no municipal police department, a
17 location designated by the superintendent of state police, and shall
18 immediately transmit a signal or message to such authorities upon acti-
19 vation. The alarm shall not be audible within the school building.
20 3. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a school
21 district to alter or install any components of a panic alarm system if
22 such school district has a panic alarm system activated that complies
23 with the requirements of this section.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 4. Any funds expended for the purchase or installation of a panic
2 alarm system as required by this section shall be eligible for building
3 aid reimbursement pursuant to subdivision six-c of section three thou-
4 sand six hundred two of this chapter.

5 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however that
6 within one year of the effective date of this act, all school districts
7 shall be in compliance with the provisions of this act. Effective imme-
8 diately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation
9 necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are
10 authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.