

89th Texas Legislature 2025

Summary of School Safety Related Bills Passed

PREPARED BY:

CRUX Technology and
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Legislation Summary

The 89th Texas Legislative session concluded on June 2, 2025. As in the previous session, the Governor and other key State leaders made school security improvements one of the major focus topics for this session, producing impactful legislative changes related to school safety and security. Among the many bills enacted, the most comprehensive measures include HB 33, HB 6, HB 121, and HB 2 addressing a broad range of initiatives aimed at enhancing school safety, including school facility hardening, student cell phone usage, emergency preparedness and funding.

House Bill 33, known as the “Uvalde Strong Act”, stood out as the leading bill. It is recognized for impactful enhancements to campus security protocols as it strengthens critical areas of school safety in response to tragic events involving active shooters at school facilities. The bill requires public schools, public junior colleges, and open-enrollment charter schools to adopt enhanced multi-hazard emergency operations plans (EOPs) using standard response protocol terminology. EOPs must address emergency prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery, ensuring thorough coordination with law enforcement, emergency services, and public health departments.

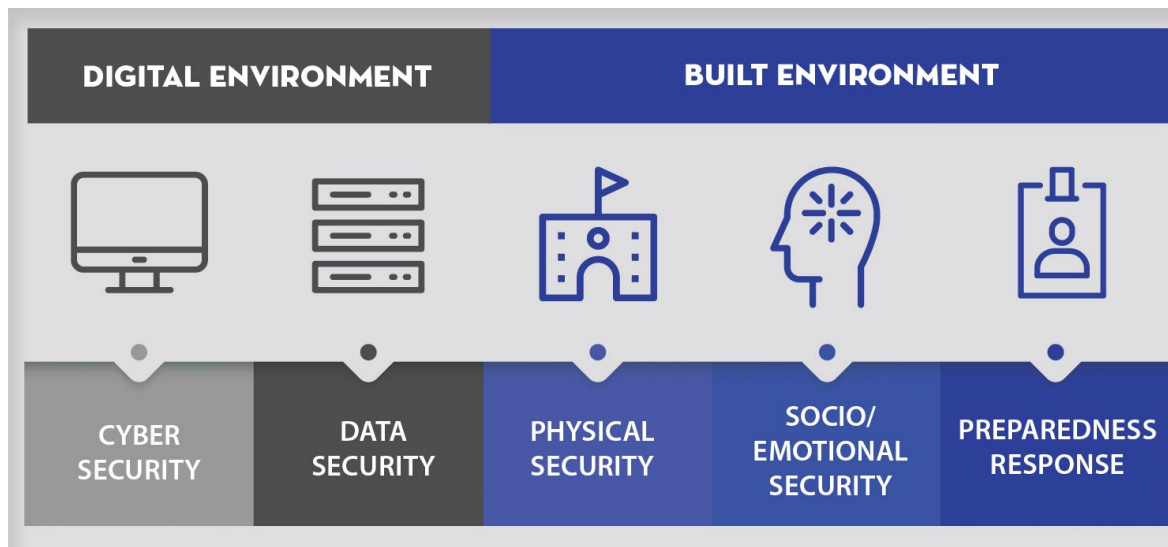
Additionally, HB 33 mandates security reviews for new construction, renovation and improvements of school facilities. This is a transformative step in school security as it elevates safety as a core priority in design, ensuring potential vulnerabilities are identified and addressed before they can lead to incidents.

While HB 33 presents numerous provisions that require careful consideration, it is equally important to recognize that several other bills have also been enacted. School district leadership must remain informed and be prepared to effectively implement the requirements.

These pages serve as a reference guide to the extensive collection of bills and rule sections pertaining to school safety and security. The goal is to aid school officials in understanding the essential information. However, it is important to note that these pages do not replace the need to read the relevant bills and rules thoroughly. When in doubt, it is always advisable to consult with your legal counsel, the TEA, or other authorities for clarification.

CRUX is here to help. Our risk management and security professionals can assist in navigating through the requirements and in developing a strategy that is tailored specifically for you.

Roadmap to Safer Schools



Creating safer learning environments shouldn't be overwhelming. CRUX's Roadmap to Safer Schools guide provides K-12 institutions with a clear, actionable 12-month plan to enhance campus security systematically. Our comprehensive approach guides you through six strategic steps: Engage stakeholders through listening sessions, involve passionate advocates in your safety committee, assess risks across all properties, plan with detailed recommendations and timelines, execute your customized strategy, and evaluate process through annual audits. You'll receive ongoing insights, practical tools, and expert support at every phase, transforming what can feel like an insurmountable challenge into manageable, measurable progress. With CRUX as your partner, you're not just implementing safety measures—you're building a sustainable culture of protection that serves your students, staff, and community for years to come.

Prepared by CRUX Technology and Security Solutions, Inc., August 2025:

CRUX Solutions does not represent or warrant this list to be complete or fully explanatory of the contents of any bill or other legislative action referenced. The comments provided herein are from CRUX professional security consulting staff, based on our research, knowledge and experience. CRUX is not a law firm and does not give legal advice, nor does CRUX speak for the State of Texas, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas School Safety Center or any other organization. Readers are strongly encouraged to do their own research and consult with their legal representatives.

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BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
SB 870 Relating to the open carrying of a handgun by a uniformed school marshal.	1, 2 & 3	TEC section 37.0811(c) and (d)	Uniformed school marshal may openly carry a handgun.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
HB 1458 Relating to the armed security officers required to be present at public schools and the appointment of reserve police officers by a school district police department.	1	CCP Art. 2A.001	Reserve police officer, officer appointed by the inspector general and fire marshal added to peace officers section.
	2	TEC section 37.0814(b)	A security officer can now be a reserve officer or retired officer.
	3	TEC section 37.0816	The Chief may now appoint a reserve officer with Board of Trustee approval.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
HB 121 Relating to measures for ensuring public school safety, including the commissioning of peace officers by the Texas Education Agency, the composition of the Board of Directors of the Texas School Safety Center, and public school safety and security requirements and resources.	2	TEC section 37.0814(d)	Adds subsections (d-1) which requires school marshal or contracted security officer to complete all training within 90 days from date of hire.
	3	TEC section 37.1031	Defines responsibility of Agency Inspectors.
	4	TEX section 37.108	Add reunification to emergency operations plan and the District is required to keep a copy of the safety and security audit. Agency will monitor events and extracurricular activities.
	7	TEC section 37.115	Amended requirements for a threat assessment on a special education student.
	8	TEC section 37.117	Maps shall be provided to each local emergency services district.
	10	TEC section 37.222	Added to paragraph (b) that literature on safe firearms storage shall be provided 3 times each school year to students and parents.
	11	TEC section 37.353	A good cause exception is good for five years.
	12	TEC section 48.115 (b)	Funds can also now be used for interior window upgrades. Added behavioral interventionists to prevention practices.
	13	Gov Code section 85.024 (a) and (b)	The sheriff of a county less than 350,000 shall conduct meetings twice a year with a District on school safety and procedures.

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BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
HB 33 Relating to active shooter incidents at primary and secondary school facilities and other emergencies.	3	TEC section 37.108 (a) and (b)	The multihazard emergency operations plan shall include the prompt recovery of services. Added that District communications with law enforcement, district employees, the public and emergency services must be adequate.
	4	TEC section 37.1083(a)	Security reviews were added to items the agency shall monitor.
	5	TEC Chapter 37 Subchapter D	Added section 37.1087 that calls for a security review for new construction or renovations within a District.
	6	TEC Chapter 37 Subchapter D	Added section 37.1171 calls for adding a breaching tool and ballistic shield at each campus.
	8	TEC Chapter 96 Subchapter C	Added section 96.42 that states the center shall develop a template for ALERRT Training and develop a training program.
	9	Gov Code Chapter 411 Subchapter L-1	Added section 411.3735 that added requirements for a Public Information Office. PI's must obtain the Texas Division of Emergency Management certification.
	10	Gov Code Chapter 418 Subchapter C	Added section 418.059 that states a guide shall be established by the division for an active shooter event.
	11	Gov Code Chapter 418 Subchapter H	Added sections 418.1873 and 418.1877 that explains requirements, training and the reporting for an active shooter event.
	12	Gov Code Chapter 418	Amended by adding Subchapter K that explains the certification and continuing education requirements for certain public information officers.
	13	Gov Code Chapter 772 Subchapter A	Added section 772.00791, 772.013, and 772.014 that established a grant program for the ALERRT Training and establishes a mutual aid agreement between DPS and local law enforcement agencies.
	14	Gov Code Section 85.024	Amended subsections (a) and (c) that states the sheriff shall conduct an annual meeting on school safety with all Districts within the elected county. Guidelines are set for the persons that are to attend those meetings for populations of below 350,000 and above 350,000.
	15	Gov Code Chapter 391	Added section 391.0041 talks about mental health resources for first responders.
	18	Occupations Code Section 1701 Subchapter F	Added section 1701.273 that states all peace officers will be trained in Incident Response and Command.
	19	Occupations Code Section 1701 Subchapter H	Added section 1701.3526 that requires continuing education on Incident Response and Command for peace officers.

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BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
HB 2 Relating to public education and public school finance.	3.1	TEC section 37.002	Amended Subsection (b), (c), and (d) and added subsections (b-2), (b-3), (c-1), (c-2), (e-1), (e-2), and (f) that talks about removing a student from the classroom due to disruption. The removal or placement of a student with a disability who receives special education services and how that is handled. It requires that as soon as practical that if a threat is made against the campus administration is to notify teaching staff and aides that could be affected.
	7.15	TEC section 48.115	Transferred to Subchapter D, Chapter 48 and was redesignated as Section 48.160 and amended the school safety allotment for \$20 per student and \$33,540 per campus.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
SB 1177 Relating to fire safety inspections at public and private schools.	1	Gov Code Section 419.029	Training for conduction of fire safety inspection.
	2	Gov Code Section 419.909	Amended by adding Subsections (b-1), (b-2), and (b-3) to include requirements for a fire safety inspection.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
SB 865 Relating to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools providing silent panic alert technology in classrooms.	2	TEC section 22.902(c)	Amends to include cardiopulmonary resuscitation as a requirements for certified school employees.
	3	TEC section 38.108	Amended to include a cardiac emergency response plan.

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BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
SB 57 Relating to provisions and plans by public schools to ensure the safety of individuals with disabilities or impairments during a mandatory school drill or a disaster or emergency situation.	2	TEC section 37.1086	Amended to give recommendations and guidelines for school drills for persons with disabilities and impairments.
	3	TEC section 37.109 (a-1), (b), (c), and (d)	Amended committee rules and includes making recommended accommodations for students under section 504.

Other Bills To Be Aware Of 89th Texas Legislature 2025:

Summary of School Safety Related Bills Passed

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
HB 1481 Relating to school district and open-enrollment charter school policies regarding student use of personal communication devices.	1	TEC section 37.082	Amended to prohibit students from using a personal communication device on school property during the school day. District shall adopt a policy, implement the policy and ensure it is complied with. Also designating a method of storage for the communication device.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
HB 1778 Relating to human trafficking, prostitution, and child pornography and to the prosecution of sexual or assaultive offenses or the prosecution of a failure to stop or report those offenses; amending and harmonizing certain statute of limitations provisions; creating a criminal offense; increasing a criminal penalty.	1	Gov Code section 71.0353 (a)	Amended to include additional sexual or assaultive offenses for children in relation to human trafficking.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
HB 6 Relating to discipline management and access to telehealth mental health services in public schools.	1	TEC section 12.111 (a)	Amended and added (a-1) and requires campus behavior coordinators to report students engaging in terroristic threats, weapon violations or concerning behaviors that pose violence risks to the Safe and Supportive Schools Program Team. It also expands telehealth mental health services access in public schools.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
SB 207 Relating to excused absences from public school to certain students to attend mental health care appointments	1	TEC section 25.087 (b)	This legislation requires school districts to excuse student absences for mental health professional appointments , eliminating barriers to accessing care during school hours. Students must return to school the same day if feasible, and the policy applies to appointment for the student or their child.

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BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
SB 260 Relating to the school safety allotment under the Foundation School Program.	1	TEC section 48.115 (a)	School safety allotment was increased to \$20 per student and \$33,540 per campus.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
SB 546 Relating to seatbelts on buses that transport children.	1	Transportation Code section 547.701	Requires school systems to submit the estimated cost to equip three-point seat belts on each bus operated by and/or contracted for use by the school system. Additional information regarding this future data collection will be the subject of future communications.

BILL	SECTION	WHAT IS AMENDED	SUMMARY
19 Texas Administrative Code, 103.1213			<p>As a reminder, in accordance with Commissioner's rule, each school system shall report the following information through Sentinel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavior Threat Assessments (BTAs) District Vulnerability Assessments (DVAs) Emergency Management Intruder Detection Audits (IDAs) <p>Effective August 1, 2025, when conducting a BTA under TEC, §37.115, members of a threat assessment team shall utilize the threat assessment instrument, manual, and field guide in Sentinel.</p> <p>Effective August 1, 2025, school systems shall utilize Sentinel to securely transfer under TEC, §5.036, any threat assessment conducted on a student to a receiving school system when a student transfers to a new school district. All BTAs for a student are subject to the transfer requirement. Any BTAs conducted prior to August 1, 2025, that are associated with a student transfer shall be uploaded to Sentinel in a manner determined by TEA.</p>

Let Us Put You on the Roadmap to Safer Schools:

School leaders are faced with pressure from stakeholders at all levels. Having a comprehensive plan to help create a safer place to learn is a good thing. We can help you create and execute a custom plan for your schools.



COMPANY INFORMATION //

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