

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6809

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reduce losses of life through better school safety standards and responses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 17, 2025

Mr. OWENS (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reduce losses of life through better school safety standards and responses, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as “Alyssa’s Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF THE FEDERAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON**
2 **SCHOOL SAFETY EVIDENCE-BASED PRAC-**
3 **TICES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2220D of the Homeland
5 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 665k) is amended by add-
6 ing at the end the following new subsections:

7 “(f) PUBLIC EDUCATION EFFORTS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the Clearing-
9 house, the Secretary may take any step necessary to
10 carry out public education efforts regarding tools
11 and processes necessary to avoid and address school
12 emergencies (including school shootings), including
13 with respect to prevention and response.

14 “(2) PROGRAMS.—The public education efforts
15 referred to in paragraph (1) shall include programs
16 to provide specialized information to States and
17 school administrators to help identify, address, and
18 prevent school emergencies (including school shoot-
19 ings) to protect life as quickly and efficiently as pos-
20 sible.

21 “(3) MEANS.—The Secretary shall sponsor and
22 encourage research, testing, and experimentation to
23 determine the most effective means to implement the
24 tools and processes referred to in paragraph (1).

25 “(g) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—As
26 part of the Clearinghouse, the Secretary shall provide to

1 the individuals and entities referred to in subsection (a)(2)
2 training and technical assistance with respect to the fol-
3 lowing:

4 “(1) The evidence-based practices and rec-
5 ommendations of the Clearinghouse.

6 “(2) Individualized consulting with schools, to
7 determine for each school the best way to implement
8 such practices and recommendations, as appropriate.

9 “(h) SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS.—As part of the
10 Clearinghouse, the Secretary shall hire personnel and con-
11 tractors with expertise in school safety and school admin-
12 istration to provide additional subject matter expertise in
13 implementing evidence-based programming in schools.

14 “(i) PANIC ALARM TECHNOLOGY.—

15 “(1) TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—
16 As part of the Clearinghouse, the Secretary shall
17 carry out a program of development, testing, and
18 evaluation of panic alarm technology for utilization
19 by first responders and local educational agencies to
20 improve response times, recovery, and loss mitiga-
21 tion in the event of school emergencies (including
22 school shootings), including with respect to the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(A) Safe and reliable auxiliary equipment
25 for utilization in school shooting response, de-

tection, and control, including visual strobes and audio communications equipment and mobile equipment.

“(B) Related equipment with high sensitivity and reliability that are relatively inexpensive to purchase, install, and maintain to ensure wide acceptance and utilization in schools.

“(C) Methods of testing such technology on a non-interference basis.

“(D) Specifications, standards, and acceptance and validation test procedures for all such equipment.

“(E) Operation tests, demonstration projects, and alert investigations in support of the matters described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

“(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not manufacture or sell any equipment developed pursuant to paragraph (1), except to the extent the Secretary determines necessary to develop, test, or evaluate such equipment.

“(3) MANAGEMENT STUDIES.—

“(A) PANIC ALARM TECHNOLOGY.—

“(i) STUDIES PERMITTED.—The Secretary may conduct studies of the oper-

1 ations and management aspects of panic
2 alarm technology through quantitative
3 techniques, including operations research,
4 management economics, cost effectiveness
5 studies, and other techniques and methods
6 as may be applicable and useful.

7 “(ii) CONTENT.—The studies under
8 clause (i) shall include consideration of the
9 following:

10 “(I) The allocation of resources.

11 “(II) The optimum panic alarm
12 technology.

13 “(III) The optimum geographical
14 area for panic alarm technology.

15 “(IV) The manner of responding
16 to such technology.

17 “(V) The operation of citywide
18 and regional public safety answering
19 points.

20 “(VI) The effectiveness, fre-
21 quency, and methods of inspecting
22 such technology.

23 “(B) RESEARCH.—The Secretary may con-
24 duct research on the following:

1 “(i) The productivity and efficiency of
2 panic alarm technology.

3 “(ii) The reduction of injuries caused
4 by such technology.

5 “(iii) The most effective types of such
6 technology.

7 “(iv) Procedures and techniques for
8 accurately measuring and analyzing the
9 matters described in clauses (i) through
10 (iii).

11 “(C) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may as-
12 sist first responders and local educational agen-
13 cies in measuring and evaluating, on a cost-ben-
14 efit basis, the effectiveness of programs and ac-
15 tivities related to panic alarm technology.

16 “(j) PROJECTS.—As part of the Clearinghouse, the
17 Secretary may conduct development, testing, and dem-
18 onstration projects to introduce to and encourage utiliza-
19 tion by local educational agencies new technology, stand-
20 ards, operating methods, command techniques, and man-
21 agement systems.

22 “(k) RURAL ASSISTANCE.—As part of the Clearing-
23 house, the Secretary may assist first responders and local
24 educational agencies in sponsoring and encouraging re-
25 search into approaches, techniques, systems, and equip-

1 ment to improve school emergency prevention and re-
2 sponse in rural and remote areas.

3 “(l) GUIDANCE.—In carrying out this section, the
4 Secretary shall ensure that, as relevant technological and
5 practical developments occur, the Clearinghouse’s guid-
6 ance regarding school emergencies (including school shoot-
7 ings) is as aligned as practicable with the related guidance
8 of other Federal agencies (including the Department of
9 Education and the Department of Health and Human
10 Services), State and local governments, public sector enti-
11 ties, and private sector entities.

12 “(m) NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY DATA CENTER.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the Clearing-
14 house, not later than one year after the date of the
15 enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall es-
16 tablish through SchoolSafety.gov an integrated, com-
17 prehensive National School Safety Data Center (in
18 this section referred to as the ‘Data Center’) for the
19 selection, analysis, publication, and dissemination of
20 information related to the following:

21 “(A) The prevention, occurrence, and con-
22 trol of school emergencies (including school
23 shootings).

24 “(B) Results with respect to any effort to
25 address school safety.

1 “(C) Other school safety resources, includ-
2 ing with respect to hardening measures.

3 “(2) DUTIES.—The duties of the Secretary with
4 respect to the Data Center are the following:

5 “(A) Provide an accurate nationwide anal-
6 ysis of issues related to school safety.

7 “(B) Identify major problems regarding
8 school safety.

9 “(C) Assist States, local educational agen-
10 cies, and law enforcement agencies in setting
11 priorities regarding school safety.

12 “(D) Determine possible solutions to such
13 problems.

14 “(3) DATA.—In carrying out the duties under
15 paragraph (2), the Secretary shall gather and ana-
16 lyze data with respect to the following:

17 “(A) The frequency, causes, trends, and
18 responses with respect to school emergencies
19 (including school shootings).

20 “(B) The number of injuries and deaths
21 resulting from school violence, including infor-
22 mation on the specific causes and nature of
23 such injuries and deaths.

24 “(C) The property losses resulting from
25 school violence.

1 “(D) The behavioral hazards faced by
2 school staff, including the causes of staff inju-
3 ries and deaths resulting from school violence.

4 “(E) The types of school safety plans uti-
5 lized by schools, including with respect to in-
6 spection and updating reporting practices.

7 “(F) The school safety prevention and re-
8 sponse laws, systems, methods, techniques, and
9 administrative structures utilized in States.

10 “(G) The causes of, behaviors relating to,
11 and best methods to control other types of
12 school safety issues, including classroom out-
13 bursts, physical altercations, truancy, and
14 elopement.

15 “(H) Any other matter as the Data Center
16 determines useful and applicable.

17 “(4) OTHER DUTIES.—In carrying out the du-
18 ties under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall carry
19 out the following:

20 “(A) Develop standardized data reporting
21 methods with respect to the data described in
22 paragraph (3).

23 “(B) Encourage and assist States, local
24 educational agencies, and law enforcement
25 agencies in developing and reporting such data.

1 “(C) Utilize data gathering and analysis
2 organizations, both public and private.

3 “(5) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary shall
4 carry out the following:

5 “(A) Ensure, to the maximum extent pos-
6 sible, dissemination to States, local educational
7 agencies, and law enforcement agencies of the
8 school safety data collected and developed with
9 respect to the Data Center.

10 “(B) Publish through SchoolSafety.gov
11 such data for utilization by Federal agencies
12 (including the Department of Education and
13 the Department of Health and Human Serv-
14 ices), State and local governments, public sector
15 entities, and private sector entities.

16 “(n) ANNUAL REPORT.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than June 30 of
18 the year following the date of the enactment of this
19 subsection and annually thereafter, the Secretary
20 shall submit a report on any activity relating to the
21 Clearinghouse during the preceding year to the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(A) The Committee on Appropriations of
24 the House of Representatives.

1 “(B) The Committee on Education and
2 Workforce of the House of Representatives.

3 “(C) The Committee on Energy and Com-
4 merce of the House of Representatives.

5 “(D) The Committee on Homeland Secu-
6 rity of the House of Representatives.

7 “(E) The Committee on Appropriations of
8 the Senate.

9 “(F) The Committee on Health, Edu-
10 cation, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

11 “(G) The Committee on Homeland Secu-
12 rity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

13 “(2) CONTENTS.—A report submitted pursuant
14 to paragraph (1) shall include information relating
15 to the following:

16 “(A) An appraisal, including statistical
17 analyses, estimates, and long-term projections,
18 of the human and economic losses due to school
19 shootings.

20 “(B) A survey and summary of any activ-
21 ity relating to the research and technology ef-
22 forts carried out under the Clearinghouse.

23 “(C) A comparative analysis of actions rec-
24 ommended in school safety plans described in
25 subsection (m)(3)(E).

1 “(D) An assessment of the effectiveness of
2 the Clearinghouse in assisting schools to de-
3 velop and implement master plans as a means
4 to avert violence, and policy recommendations
5 for improved effectiveness.

6 “(E) A summary of the activities taken to
7 assist first responders and local educational
8 agencies.

9 “(F) A summary of the public education
10 efforts carried out under the Clearinghouse.

11 “(G) A summary of outstanding problems
12 with respect to the Clearinghouse, in order of
13 priority.

14 “(H) A description of evidence-based rec-
15 ommendations for additional legislation as the
16 Secretary determines appropriate with respect
17 to school safety.

18 “(o) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 “(1) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
20 ‘local educational agency’ has the meaning given
21 such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and
22 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

23 “(2) PANIC ALARM TECHNOLOGY.—The term
24 ‘panic alarm technology’ means a wearable device
25 that allows for immediate contact with emergency

1 services or emergency services agencies, law enforce-
2 ment agencies, health departments, and fire depart-
3 ments.

4 “(3) PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT.—The
5 term ‘public safety answering point’ has the meaning
6 given such term in section 222 of the Communica-
7 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222).”.

8 (b) DIRECTORS.—

9 (1) CLEARINGHOUSE.—Section 2220D of the
10 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 665k) is
11 amended—

12 (A) in subsection (a)(3)—

13 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
14 (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and
15 (C), respectively; and

16 (ii) by inserting before subparagraph
17 (B), as so redesignated, the following new
18 subparagraph:

19 “(A) DIRECTOR.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than
21 120 days after the date of the enactment
22 of this clause, the Secretary shall designate
23 from among the personnel of the Depart-
24 ment a Director of the Clearinghouse (in
25 this section referred to as the ‘Director’).

1 “(ii) DISCHARGE.—In carrying out
 2 this section, the Secretary shall act
 3 through the Director.”; and

4 (B) in subsection (b)—

5 (i) in paragraph (2)(B)(iii), by strik-
 6 ing “subsection (a)(3)(B)” and inserting
 7 “subsection (a)(3)(C)”; and

8 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking
 9 “subsection (a)(3)(B)” and inserting “sub-
 10 section (a)(3)(C)”.

11 (2) UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE.—Section
 12 2220D of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
 13 U.S.C. 665k) is amended—

14 (A) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting “the
 15 Director of the United States Secret Service,”
 16 after “with”;

17 (B) in subsection (b)(1)—

18 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
 19 graph (A), by striking “for” and inserting
 20 “of”;

21 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
 22 “and” at the end;

23 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—

24 (I) by striking “evidence-based
 25 practices published by the Clearing-

1 house” and inserting “such prac-
2 tices”; and

3 (II) by striking the period at the
4 end and inserting “; and”; and

5 (iv) by adding at the end the following
6 new subparagraph:

7 “(C) consult with the Director of the
8 United States Secret Service to ensure that
9 such practices and recommendations are aligned
10 with the evidence-based support of the National
11 Threat Assessment Center.”; and

12 (C) in subsection (d)(2), in the matter pre-
13 ceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “the Di-
14 rector of the United States Secret Service,”
15 after “with”.

16 (c) EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD.—Subsection
17 (d)(2)(B) of section 2220D of the Homeland Security Act
18 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 665k) is amended—

19 (1) by striking “establish an external advisory
20 board, which shall be comprised” and inserting “not-
21 withstanding subsection (a)(2) of section 1013 of
22 title 5, United States Code, maintain an external ad-
23 visory board composed”; and

24 (2) by striking “representative” and inserting
25 “representatives”.

1 **SEC. 3. FUNDING PROHIBITION AND STRATEGY FOR EMER-**
2 **GENCY RESPONSE MAPS.**

3 (a) FUNDING PROHIBITION.—

4 (1) PROHIBITION.—No Federal funds made
5 available for fiscal year 2026 or any fiscal year
6 thereafter may be used to procure an emergency re-
7 sponse map that does not meet the requirements de-
8 scribed in paragraph (2).

9 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements for an
10 emergency response map described in paragraph (1)
11 are the following:

12 (A) Be in a digital geospatial format—

13 (i) accessible on a laptop computer,
14 tablet computer, smartphone, or other mo-
15 bile platform; and

16 (ii) capable of being—

17 (I) printed and shared electroni-
18 cally; and

19 (II) updated in real time.

20 (B) Be interoperable with emergency re-
21 sponse systems using commonly accepted stand-
22 ards and capable of being digitally integrated
23 into other mapping, emergency response, or
24 public safety applications.

1 (C) Have symbology in accordance with
2 guidelines of the National Association of Public
3 Safety GIS.

4 (D) Have data owned by the owner of the
5 site for which such map is procured with the
6 right to copy, display, distribute, transmit, and
7 adapt such map for any lawful purpose, includ-
8 ing sharing such map with the governmental or
9 private entities that provide or support emer-
10 gency services at such site.

11 (E) Have data shared only via a secured
12 and authenticated application programming
13 interface.

14 (F) Not be stored in a data center located
15 outside of the United States.

16 (G) Be in a format that can be oriented
17 true north and on a coordinate grid.

18 (H) Be in a format that can display any
19 floor of the site (or the portion of the site) for
20 which such map is procured through overlaid,
21 aerial imagery.

22 (I) Be for a site (or a portion of a site)
23 that is verified annually by the local educational
24 agency for accuracy by a walk through inspec-
25 tion of such site or such portion.

1 (J) After any funds to procure such map
2 are expended, be made available to the following
3 without restriction:

4 (i) The procurer of such map.

5 (ii) Each covered public safety agency
6 that serves the site for which such map is
7 procured.

8 (b) STRATEGY.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
10 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary,
11 in consultation with the Secretary of Education and
12 the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall
13 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
14 a strategy for the Federal Government to carry out
15 the following:

16 (A) Procure an emergency response map
17 that satisfies the requirements described in sub-
18 section (a)(2) for any site that is owned or
19 leased by the Federal Government and deter-
20 mined to be critical by the Secretary.

21 (B) Distribute such map to each covered
22 public safety agency that serves such site.

23 (2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after
24 the date on which the Secretary submits the strategy
25 pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall brief

1 the appropriate congressional committees on such
2 strategy.

3 **SEC. 4. MASTER PLANS.**

4 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the
6 Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional
7 committees a report on the establishment and effective-
8 ness of master plans throughout the United States.

9 (b) CONTENTS.—A report submitted pursuant to
10 subsection (a) shall include the following:

11 (1) A summary of the extent and quality of
12 master planning activities.

13 (2) A summary and evaluation of master plans
14 prepared by States and political subdivisions of
15 States that considers with respect to each such plan
16 the following:

17 (A) The characteristics of the jurisdiction
18 adopting such plan, including the following:

19 (i) Density and distribution of popu-
20 lation.

21 (ii) Geographic location.

22 (iii) Per capita rate of—

23 (I) shootings; and

24 (II) injuries and deaths caused
25 by such shootings.

1 (iv) Size and characteristics of polit-
2 ical subdivisions of such State or of such
3 subdivision.

4 (B) The approach to developing and imple-
5 menting such plan.

6 (3) An evaluation of the best approach to the
7 development and implementation of master plans,
8 such as central planning by a State department of
9 education and department of public safety, regional-
10 ized planning within a State coordinated by a State
11 agency, or local planning supplemented and coordi-
12 nated by a State agency.

13 (4) An assessment of the costs and benefits of
14 master plans.

15 **SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION ON RULEMAKING AU-**
16 **THORITY.**

17 Nothing in this Act may be construed to grant any
18 rulemaking or other regulatory authority to the Federal
19 Clearinghouse on School Safety Evidence-based Practices
20 under section 2220D of the Homeland Security Act of
21 2002 (6 U.S.C. 665k).

22 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this Act:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees” means the following:

4 (A) The Committee on Appropriations of
5 the House of Representatives.

6 (B) The Committee on Education and
7 Workforce of the House of Representatives.

8 (C) The Committee on Energy and Com-
9 merce of the House of Representatives.

10 (D) The Committee on Homeland Security
11 of the House of Representatives.

12 (E) The Committee on Appropriations of
13 the Senate.

14 (F) The Committee on Health, Education,
15 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

16 (G) The Committee on Homeland Security
17 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

18 (2) COVERED PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY.—The
19 term “covered public safety agency” means—

20 (A) a Federal, State, or local agency that
21 provides emergency response services; or

22 (B) a SLTT entity (as defined in section
23 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
24 U.S.C. 650)).

1 (3) EMERGENCY RESPONSE MAP.—The term
2 “emergency response map” means a map of a site
3 (or a portion of a site) to be used by a covered pub-
4 lic safety agency in responding to an emergency at
5 such site (or such portion of such site).

6 (4) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
7 “local educational agency” has the meaning given
8 such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and
9 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

10 (5) MASTER PLAN.—The term “master plan”
11 means a plan that results in the planning and imple-
12 mentation in the area involved of a general program
13 of action for school shooting prevention and response
14 and that includes the following:

15 (A) A survey of the resources and per-
16 sonnel of school safety services.

17 (B) An analysis of the effectiveness of the
18 school safety standards and codes in such area.

19 (C) An analysis of short- and long-term
20 school shooting prevention and response needs
21 in such area.

22 (D) A plan to meet the school shooting
23 prevention and response needs in such area.

1 (E) An estimate of cost and realistic plans
2 for financing the implementation of the plan
3 and operation on a continuing basis.

4 (F) A summary of problems that are an-
5 ticipated in implementing such plan.

6 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
7 the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through
8 the Director of the Federal Clearinghouse on School
9 Safety Evidence-based Practices under section
10 2220D of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
11 U.S.C. 665k) (as amended by section 2(b)(1) of this
12 Act).

13 (7) SITE.—The term “site” means a building,
14 campus, or facility of a school.

15 (8) STATE.—The term “State” means each
16 State of the United States, the District of Columbia,
17 and each commonwealth, territory, or possession of
18 the United States.

○