

**HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
DEPARTMENT[605]**

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to school safety

The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management hereby amends Chapter 13, “School Safety,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in 2024 Iowa Acts, House File 2652.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, 2024 Iowa Acts, House File 2652.

Purpose and Summary

The current chapter does not provide for any transitional or safe harbor protections for school districts that purchased products related to unholstered weapons detection soon after the enactment of 2024 Iowa Acts, House File 2652. Because the rulemaking and development of the list of eligible organizations took some time, the Department wishes to provide safe harbor for the school districts that did procure technologies related to unholstered weapons detection prior to the publication of the list, provided the organizations complied with the requirements at the time and were eventually approved to be on the list by the Department.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on April 29, 2026, as **ARC 0222D**. A public hearing was held on the following date(s):

- May 20, 2026

No one attended the public hearing. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Department on June 3, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting.

The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on July 29, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** subrule 13.1(4):

13.1(4) Transitional compliance and retroactive approval:

a. A school district or accredited nonpublic school that purchased an unholstered weapons detection system after May 17, 2024, but prior to the department's first publication of the approved organization list, shall be deemed in compliance with Iowa Code section 279.86 and this chapter, provided that:

(1) The organization and product are subsequently added to the approved list; or

(2) The school provides documentation to the department demonstrating that the organization and product met the eligibility criteria in rule 605—13.2(90GA, HF2652) at the time of purchase.

b. Systems approved under this subrule may continue to be used and maintained for the duration of the existing contract or the operational life of the equipment, whichever is shorter, without requiring a new procurement from the approved list.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** subrule 13.2(3):

13.2(3) For purposes of the transitional exception in subrule 13.1(4), the department may evaluate an organization's qualification based on the technical specifications and security standards in place at the time of the school's initial procurement.

[Filed 6/3/26, effective 7/29/26]

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 6/24/26.