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John Bing, Paralegal**SENATE BILL 26-104****REQUIRE KEY BOXES AT SCHOOLS [CODIFIED AT COLO. REV. STAT. § 22-1-151; §24-72-202]**

This statute applies to local education providers, a term that includes school districts, district charter schools, and institute charter schools. It requires each school or district to install, on or before July 1, 2030, at minimum one exterior key box to permit law enforcement officers emergency access to each building and room in the school.

Location of the box will be determined by the school or district after consulting with local law enforcement. The school or districts will to provide each local law enforcement agency with a key or access code that will allow them to access the exterior key box.

The key box needs to meet specific requirements including, but not limited to, accurate maps of the entire school, keys and other access control devices necessary to enter each room and building on the grounds, locations of trauma kits and other emergency response aids, and areas such as parking areas and athletic fields that are at or near each building.

The contents of the key box and the information contained within are not subject to public records request. Absent gross negligence or bad faith, employees of a district or school are immune from civil liability for damage that arises out of the installation and use of the key box.

To install an exterior key box, districts or school may use funds from the school security disbursement program. Schools and districts are exempt from this requirement if they already have a compliant key box, applied for funds for this purpose and did not receive them, or have a noncompliant pre-existing key box combined with a plan for local law enforcement emergency access to all facilities.

