

TO: House Education Committee

FROM: Susan E. Morettini

RE: Support H 8102 School Emergency Drills Act (Boylan)

DATE: April 3, 2024

My name is Susan E. Morettini. I live in Bristol and June Speakman is my Representative.

I am writing to urge you to support a school emergency plan that meets the needs of administrators, teachers, crisis response teams and all students, especially those with special needs and those negatively affected by the trauma of such drills.

As a former special needs paraprofessional in Vermont and Rhode Island, I am acutely aware of the panic and fear inflicted on special needs students when any change to their daily routine happens. Emergency drills, fire drills and crisis response drills present an even greater emotional toll on these students due to the very nature of all the noise, movement and commands that come with being led to safety on or off school grounds.

Please vote yes on H 8102 to bring RI school emergency plans to a 2024 standard that fits all community needs. Once approved, please bring this bill to the floor for a full vote in the house.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Morettini

Susan Morettini  
[semorettini@gmail.com](mailto:semorettini@gmail.com)