SENATE BILL No. 264
By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

AN ACT concerning school districts; requiring storm shelters as a part of certain construction projects.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) The legislature hereby declares that it is necessary to provide life-saving protection to all Kansas children in the event of extreme wind. For those children attending public schools such life-saving protection comes in the form of sound storm shelters that are constructed to withstand the extreme wind speeds produced by tornadoes. Therefore, on or before December 31, 2014, the adjutant general shall adopt rules and regulations specifying the design and construction requirements for community storm shelters.

(b) On and after January 1, 2015, no school district shall undertake any building project unless the plans for such building project include the construction of a storm shelter to be located in the building that is the subject of the building project. Such storm shelter shall be designed and constructed in compliance with the rules and regulations adopted by the adjutant general pursuant to subsection (a). If such building has an existing storm shelter that is not in compliance with the rules and regulations adopted by the adjutant general pursuant to subsection (a), then the plans for the building project shall include the remodeling or reconstruction of the existing storm shelter to bring it into compliance with the rules and regulations adopted by the adjutant general pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any building project where the building in question has an existing storm shelter that is in compliance with the rules and regulations adopted by the adjutant general pursuant to subsection (a).

(d) The state board of education shall coordinate with the adjutant general to develop, adopt and enforce any rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

(e) For purposes of this section:

(1) (A) "Building project" means a project approved by the local board of education of a school district for:

(i) The construction of a new building for use by the school district; or

(ii) any remodeling, reconstruction or expansion of an existing
building utilized by the school district if such remodeling, reconstruction
or expansion has an aggregate cost that is equal to 50% or more of the
insured value of such existing building.

(B) The term "building project" does not include any project that is
solely for the construction, remodeling, reconstruction or expansion of a
school facility used primarily for extracurricular activities, such as an
athletic field.

(2) "School district" means a unified school district organized and
operating under the laws of this state.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
publication in the statute book.