



January 15, 2016

Dear Senator,

ISTA believes in doing all that is possible to ensure the health and safety of kids and staff who learn and work in public schools in Indiana. That is why the Indiana State Teachers Association supports SB 147 concerning school Emergency Response Systems.

Using technology in schools to link buildings with local law enforcement could save valuable time in protecting kids and staff in life-threatening emergencies such as an active shooter event, fire or natural disaster. Often times, teachers and support staff are at the front lines of protecting their students. Having an Emergency Response System in place could make the difference.

SB 147 creates new funding mechanisms voted on by the community that could mean entire school districts can be protected for less than \$5 per month per household for some time until all schools are protected.

Schools in Shelby County have successfully implemented an Emergency Response System which has been nationally recognized for its groundbreaking design and sophistication. All Indiana schools deserve this opportunity.

SB 147 will allow schools to choose to protect its students and staff while empowering law enforcement to do their jobs more effectively, all without adding to the state's budget. We hope that you will give the bill your support.

Sincerely,

Teresa Meredith
President

Our kids. Our schools. Our future.