

YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AMENDMENTS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Brian S. King

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to the purposes for youth suicide prevention programs.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- amends provisions related to the purposes for youth suicide prevention programs;
- requires school districts and charter schools to ensure coordination between youth suicide prevention programs and certain other prevention programs;
- repeals a separate program to consolidate funding and effort into one comprehensive suicide prevention program; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53G-9-702, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 293, 324, and 447

REPEALS:

53F-5-206, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 414 and renumbered and



amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 2

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53G-9-702** is amended to read:

53G-9-702. Youth suicide prevention programs -- State board to develop model programs.

(1) As used in the section:

(a) "Intervention" means an effort to prevent a student from attempting suicide.

(b) "Postvention" means mental health intervention after a suicide attempt or death to prevent or contain contagion.

(c) "Program" means a youth suicide prevention program described in Subsection (2).

(d) "Public education suicide prevention coordinator" means an individual designated by the state board as described in Subsection ~~[(3)]~~ (4).

~~[(e) "Secondary grades":]~~

~~[(i) means grades 7 through 12; and]~~

~~[(ii) if a middle or junior high school includes grade 6, includes grade 6.]~~

~~[(f)]~~ (e) "State suicide prevention coordinator" means the state suicide prevention coordinator described in Section **62A-15-1101**.

(2) In collaboration with the public education suicide prevention coordinator, a school district or charter school~~[, in the secondary grades of the school district or charter school;]~~ shall implement a youth suicide prevention program, which, in collaboration with the training, programs, and initiatives described in Section **53G-9-607**, shall include programs and training to address:

~~[(a) bullying and cyberbullying, as those terms are defined in Section **53G-9-601**;~~

~~[(b)]~~ (a) prevention of youth suicide;

~~[(c) increased]~~ (b) decreasing the risk of suicide among youth who are not accepted by family for any reason, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth;

~~[(d)]~~ (c) youth suicide intervention;

~~[(e)]~~ (d) postvention for family, students, and faculty;

~~[(f) underage drinking of alcohol;]~~

~~[(g)]~~ (e) methods of strengthening the family; and

59 ~~[(4)]~~ (f) methods of strengthening a youth's relationships in the school and community.

60 (3) Each school district and charter school shall ensure that the youth suicide
61 prevention program described in Subsection (2) considers appropriate coordination with the
62 following prevention programs:

63 (a) the prevention of bullying and cyber-bullying, as those terms are defined in Section
64 53G-9-601; and

65 (b) the prevention of underage drinking of alcohol and substance abuse under Section
66 53G-10-406.

67 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) The state board shall:

68 (a) designate a public education suicide prevention coordinator; and

69 (b) in collaboration with the Department of ~~[Heath]~~ Health and the state suicide
70 prevention coordinator, develop model programs to provide to school districts and charter
71 schools:

72 (i) program training; and

73 (ii) resources regarding the required ~~[components]~~ component described in Subsection
74 (2)~~[(b)]~~(a).

75 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) The public education suicide prevention coordinator shall:

76 (a) oversee the youth suicide prevention programs of school districts and charter
77 schools;

78 (b) coordinate prevention and postvention programs, services, and efforts with the state
79 suicide prevention coordinator; and

80 (c) award grants in accordance with Section 53F-5-206.

81 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) A public school suicide prevention program may allow school personnel to
82 ask a student questions related to youth suicide prevention, intervention, or postvention.

83 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) (a) Subject to legislative appropriation, the state board may distribute money
84 to a school district or charter school to be used to implement evidence-based practices and
85 programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide in the school district
86 or charter school.

87 (b) The state board shall distribute money under Subsection ~~[(6)]~~ (7)(a) so that each
88 school ~~[that enrolls students in grade 7 or a higher grade]~~ receives an allocation of at least
89 ~~[\$1,000]~~ \$500.

90 (c) (i) A school shall use money allocated to the school under Subsection [~~(6)~~] (7)(b) to
91 implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs,
92 for preventing suicide.

93 (ii) Each school may select the evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging
94 best practices and programs, for preventing suicide that the school implements.

95 Section 2. **Repealer.**

96 This bill repeals:

97 Section **53F-5-206**, **Grant awards for elementary suicide prevention programs.**