

H.B. 252

UTAH SUICIDE PREVENTION ACT

Representative **David Litvack** proposes the following amendments:

1. *Page 1, Lines 9 through 12:*

9 This bill creates a task force to study issues relating to suicide ~~{-and}~~ . to determine the best
10 way to prevent suicide in the state , and to develop a statewide suicide prevention plan. This bill also
amends the Utah Human Services
11 Code to impose reporting requirements, and other duties relating to suicide prevention,
12 on certain departments in state government.

2. *Page 1, Lines 17 through 20:*

17 ▶ describes the duties of the Department of Human Services relating to the purposes
18 of this bill, including duties relating to implementing, managing, and updating a
19 statewide suicide prevention plan ~~{-if the task force determines that a plan should be~~
20 ~~developed}~~ ;

3. *Page 2, Lines 35 through 37:*

35 ▶ requires the task force to present a report to the Health and Human Services Interim
36 Committee regarding the statewide suicide prevention plan developed by the task force, the
determinations of the task force . and legislative action that
37 could be taken to prevent suicides in the state; and

4. *Page 3, Lines 68 through 77:*

68 (c) the state must study the problem of suicide and ~~{-determine whether it would be~~
69 ~~beneficial to}~~ develop and implement a comprehensive statewide plan to prevent suicides in the
70 state.

71 (2) The purpose of this act is to:

72 (a) discover contributing factors relating to suicide;

73 (b) ~~{-make the determination described in Subsection (1)(c)}~~ develop and implement a suicide
prevention plan ;

74 ~~{-(c) take appropriate action in response to the determination made under Subsection~~
75 ~~(2)(b);}~~ and

76 ~~{-(d)}~~ (c) to support community, charitable, and faith-based organizations in their efforts to
77 reduce suicide rates and improve the quality of life for the citizens of the state.

5. Page 3, Line 86 through Page 5, Line 126a:

86 Beginning on December 1, 2007, the department shall:

87 (1) carry out the purposes of this chapter, described in Subsections 62A-16-102(2)(a) ~~{-}~~ and

88 (c) ~~{-,and(d)}~~ ; ~~{and}~~

89 (2) ~~{if the task force determines that a suicide prevention plan should be developed:~~

90 ~~{(a)}~~ manage, implement, and update the suicide prevention plan;

91 ~~{(b)}~~ (3) ensure that the suicide prevention plan:

92 ~~{(f)}~~ (a) includes specific, implementable, and measurable actions that may be taken by

93 various governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, families, and individuals to

94 prevent and respond to suicide;

95 ~~{(ii)}~~ (b) identifies the actions described in Subsection ~~{(2)(b)(i)}~~ (3)(a) that:

96 ~~{(A)}~~ (i) have already been implemented;

97 ~~{(B)}~~ (ii) could be implemented within existing state budgets; and

98 ~~{(C)}~~ (iii) will require additional funding to be implemented or continued, specifying for each

99 the amount and potential source of funding that will be required;

100 ~~{(iii)}~~ (c) includes the appropriate delivery of services to communities;

101 ~~{(iv)}~~ (d) establishes a coordinated system for the utilization of data for the prevention of

102 suicide;

103 ~~{(v)}~~ (e) includes, if the department determines it to be beneficial, training for professional
104 caregivers who work with populations that have a high risk of suicide;

105 ~~{(vi)}~~ (f) is based on scientifically verifiable and quantifiable data and studies;

106 ~~{(vii)}~~ (g) does not include mandatory testing, questioning, or interviewing of groups of

107 children, students, teenagers, or other people in order to determine if some of them may be at

108 risk of suicide;

109 ~~{(viii)}~~ (h) requires that consent for the testing, questioning, or interviewing described in

110 Subsection ~~{(2)(b)(vii)}~~ (3)(g) shall be informed and lawful; and

111 ~~{(ix)}~~ (i) incorporates recommendations made by the task force; and

112 ~~{(c)}~~ (4) ensure that educational resources produced in relation to the suicide prevention plan

113 are presented in a simple, clear format that can be easily understood by people who are not

114 knowledgeable in subjects relating to suicide or suicide prevention.

115 Section 5. Section **62A-16-105** is enacted to read:

116 62A-16-105. Annual reports by the Department of Health and the Department of

117 Human Services.

118 (1) The Department of Health shall, on or before November 30 of each year, report to

119 the Health and Human Services Interim Committee regarding the following:

120 (a) suicide rates in the state, broken down by groups based on age, gender, and

121 minority status;

122 (b) a comparison of the suicide rates described in Subsection (1)(a) with the rates in the
123 same categories nationally, and for each state within the United States, to the extent the
124 information is available; ~~{-and-}~~
125 (c) the ~~H→~~ ~~[relationship between suicide and the use or abuse]~~ incidence of the
125a presence ~~←H~~ of psychotropic drugs,
126 prescription drugs, illicit drugs, and other drugs ~~H→~~ in the bodies of deceased persons suspected
126a of committing suicide ~~←H~~ ~~{-}~~ ~~;~~ ~~and~~
(d) the incidence of the use of firearms to commit suicide.

6. Page 6, Lines 161 through 166
House Committee Amendments
1-24-2007:

161 (vii) the ~~H→~~ ~~[relationship between suicide and the use or abuse]~~ incidence of the
161a presence ~~←H~~ of psychotropic drugs,
162 prescription drugs, illicit drugs, and other drugs ~~H→~~ in the bodies of deceased persons suspected
162a of committing suicide ~~←H~~ ; ~~{-and-}~~
163 (viii) methods of coordinating information among and between pharmacies and
164 physicians that may assist in preventing suicides and drug abuse; ~~and~~
(ix) the incidence of the use of firearms to commit suicide;
165 (b) ~~{-determine whether it would be beneficial to-}~~ develop a statewide suicide prevention
166 plan to reduce the number of suicides in the state;

7. Page 7, Lines 199 through 204:

199 Before November 30, 2007, the task force shall present a report to the Health and
200 Human Services interim committee regarding:
201 (1) ~~{-whether it would be beneficial to:~~
202 ~~—(a) develop a-}~~ **the** suicide prevention plan **developed by the task force** ; ~~{-or-}~~
203 ~~{-(b)-}~~ **(2) whether it would be beneficial to** reorganize existing structures or programs
within the department; and
204 ~~{-(2)-}~~ **(3) legislative action that could be taken to prevent suicides in the state.**