PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH PROTECTION

2014 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason

Senate Sponsor: Aaron Osmond

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies programs to protect youth.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- provides money for schools to implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide; and
- imposes requirements regarding a parent seminar on youth protection offered by school districts, including:
  - the number of parent seminars to be offered annually; and
  - the curriculum.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2015:

- to the State Board of Education - State Office of Education, as an ongoing appropriation:
  - from the General Fund, $225,500.

Other Special Clauses:

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2014.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53A-15-1301, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 194
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 53A-15-1301 is amended to read:

53A-15-1301. Youth suicide prevention programs required in secondary schools
-- State Board of Education to develop model programs -- Reporting requirements.

(1) As used in the section:
(a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.
(b) "Intervention" means an effort to prevent a student from attempting suicide.
(c) "Postvention" means mental health intervention after a suicide attempt or death to
prevent or contain contagion.
(d) "Program" means a youth suicide prevention program described in Subsection (2).
(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) "State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator" means a person
designated by the board as described in Subsection (3).
(g) "State suicide prevention coordinator" means the state suicide prevention
coordinator described in Section 62A-15-1101.

(2) (a) In collaboration with the State Office of Education suicide prevention
coordinator, a school district or charter school shall implement a youth suicide prevention
program in the secondary grades of the school district or charter school.
(b) A school district or charter school's program shall include the following
components:
(i) prevention of youth suicides;
(ii) youth suicide intervention; and
(iii) postvention for family, students, and faculty.

(3) The board shall:
(a) designate a State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator; and
(b) in collaboration with the Department of Health and the state suicide prevention
coordinator, develop model programs to provide to school districts and charter schools:
(i) program training; and
(ii) resources regarding the required components described in Subsection (2)(b).

(4) The State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator shall:
(a) oversee the youth suicide prevention programs of school districts and charter schools; and
(b) coordinate prevention and postvention programs, services, and efforts with the state suicide prevention coordinator.

(5) (a) Subject to legislative appropriation, the board may distribute money to a school district or charter school to be used to implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide in the school district or charter school.

(b) The board shall distribute money under Subsection (5)(a) so that each school that enrolls students in grade 7 or a higher grade receives an allocation of at least $500, or a lesser amount per school if the legislative appropriation is not sufficient to provide at least $500 per school.

(c) (i) A school shall use money allocated to the school under Subsection (5)(b) to implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide.

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

(6) (a) The board shall report to the Legislature's Education Interim Committee, by the November 2014 meeting, jointly with the state suicide prevention coordinator, on:
(i) the progress of school district and charter school programs; and
(ii) the board's coordination efforts with the Department of Health and the state suicide prevention coordinator.

(b) School districts and charter schools shall provide to the board information that is necessary for the board's report to the Legislature's Education Interim Committee as required in Subsection (6)(a).

Section 2. Section 53A-15-1302 is amended to read:


(1) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (5), a school district shall offer a seminar for
parents of students in the school district that:

(i) is offered at no cost to parents;
(ii) begins at or after 6 p.m.;
(iii) is held in at least one school located in the school district; and
(iv) is offered once a year; and
[(iv) covers the topics described in Subsection (2).

(b) A school district shall annually offer one parent seminar for each 11,000 students enrolled in the school district.

(c) A school district may:
(i) develop its own curriculum for the seminar described in Subsection (1)(a); or
(ii) use the curriculum developed by the State Board of Education under Subsection (2).

(d) A school district shall notify each charter school located in the attendance boundaries of the school district of the date and time of the parent seminar, so the charter school may inform parents of the seminar.

(2) The State Board of Education shall:
(a) develop a curriculum for the parent seminar described in Subsection (1) that includes information on:
(i) substance abuse, including illegal drugs and prescription drugs and prevention;
(ii) bullying;
(iii) mental health, depression, and suicide awareness; and
(iv) Internet safety, including pornography addiction; and
(v) home firearm storage safety; and
(b) provide the curriculum, including resources and training, to school districts upon request.

(3) The State Board of Education shall report to the Legislature's Education Interim Committee, by the November 2013 meeting, on the progress of implementation of the parent seminar, including if a local school board has opted out of providing the parent seminar, as described in Subsection (5), and the reasons why a local school board opted out.

(4) The State Board of Education shall report to the Legislature's Education Interim Committee by the November 2014 meeting on:
(a) the progress of implementation of the parent seminar;
(b) the estimated attendance reported by each school district;
(c) a recommendation of whether to continue the parent seminar program; and
(d) if a local school board has opted out of providing the parent seminar, as described in Subsection (5), and the reasons why a local school board opted out.

(5) (a) A school district is not required to offer the parent seminar if the local school board determines that the topics described in Subsection (2) are not of significant interest or value to families in the school district.
(b) If a local school board chooses not to offer the parent seminar, the local school board shall notify the State Board of Education and provide the reasons why the local school board chose not to offer the parent seminar.

Section 3. Appropriation.

Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, the following sums of money are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated. These sums of money are in addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2015.

To State Board of Education - State Office of Education

From General Fund $225,500
Schedule of Programs:
Teaching and Learning $225,500

Section 4. Effective date.

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2014.

Legislative Review Note

as of 2-5-14 5:22 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel