

**SUICIDE PREVENTION AMENDMENTS**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason**

Senate Sponsor: J. Stuart Adams

Cosponsor: Justin L. Fawson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions related to suicide prevention.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ amends State Board of Education and Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health program components for suicide prevention; and
- ▶ amends interim committee reporting requirements.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2015:

- ▶ to State Board of Education - Office of Education, as a one-time appropriation:
  - from Education Fund, \$150,000; and
- ▶ to Department of Human Services - Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, as a one-time appropriation:
  - from General Fund, \$210,000.

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2016:

- ▶ to Department of Public Safety - Programs and Operations - Bureau of Criminal Identification, as an ongoing appropriation:
  - from General Fund Restricted - Firearm Safety Account, \$65,000; and



27           ▶ to Department of Human Services - Division of Substance Abuse and Mental  
28 Health, as an ongoing appropriation:

- 29           • from General Fund, \$191,000.

30 **Other Special Clauses:**

31           This bill provides a special effective date.

32 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

33 AMENDS:

34           **53A-15-1301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapters 214 and 349

35           **53A-15-1302**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 349

36           **62A-15-1101**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 226



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

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

40           **53A-15-1301. Youth suicide prevention programs required in secondary schools**

41 **-- State Board of Education to develop model programs -- Reporting requirements.**

42           (1) As used in the section:

43           (a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

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

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

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

48           (e) "Secondary grades":

49           (i) means grades 7 through 12; and

50           (ii) if a middle or junior high school includes grade 6, includes grade 6.

51           (f) "State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator" means a person  
52 designated by the board as described in Subsection (3).

53           (g) "State suicide prevention coordinator" means the state suicide prevention  
54 coordinator described in Section **62A-15-1101**.

55           (2) (a) In collaboration with the State Office of Education suicide prevention  
56 coordinator, a school district or charter school shall implement a youth suicide prevention  
57 program in the secondary grades of the school district or charter school.

58 (b) A school district or charter school's program shall include the following  
59 components:

60 (i) in collaboration with the training, programs, and initiatives described in Section  
61 53A-11a-401, programs and training to address bullying and cyberbullying, as those terms are  
62 defined in Section 53A-11a-102;

63 [~~(i)~~] (ii) prevention of youth suicides;

64 [~~(ii)~~] (iii) youth suicide intervention; and

65 [~~(iii)~~] (iv) postvention for family, students, and faculty.

66 (3) The board shall:

67 (a) designate a State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator; and

68 (b) in collaboration with the Department of Health and the state suicide prevention  
69 coordinator, develop model programs to provide to school districts and charter schools:

70 (i) program training; and

71 (ii) resources regarding the required components described in Subsection (2)(b).

72 (4) The State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator shall:

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

75 (b) coordinate prevention and postvention programs, services, and efforts with the state  
76 suicide prevention coordinator.

77 (5) A public school suicide prevention program may allow school personnel to ask a  
78 student questions related to youth suicide prevention, intervention, or postvention.

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

83 (b) The board shall distribute money under Subsection (6)(a) so that each school that  
84 enrolls students in grade 7 or a higher grade receives an allocation of at least \$500, or a lesser  
85 amount per school if the legislative appropriation is not sufficient to provide at least \$500 per  
86 school.

87 (c) (i) A school shall use money allocated to the school under Subsection (6)(b) to  
88 implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs,

89 for preventing suicide.

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

92 (7) (a) The board shall provide a written report, and shall orally report to the  
93 Legislature's Education Interim Committee, by the [~~November 2014~~] October 2015 meeting,  
94 jointly with the State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator and the state suicide  
95 prevention coordinator, on:

96 (i) the progress of school district and charter school [~~programs; and~~] youth suicide  
97 prevention programs, including rates of participation by school districts, charter schools, and  
98 students;

99 (ii) the board's coordination efforts with the Department of Health and the state suicide  
100 prevention coordinator[-];

101 (iii) the State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator's model program for  
102 training and resources related to youth suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention;

103 (iv) data measuring the effectiveness of youth suicide programs;

104 (v) funds appropriated to each school district and charter school for youth suicide  
105 prevention programs; and

106 (vi) five-year trends of youth suicides per school, school district, and charter school.

107 (b) School districts and charter schools shall provide to the board information that is  
108 necessary for the board's report to the Legislature's Education Interim Committee as required in  
109 Subsection (7)(a).

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

111 **53A-15-1302. Parent education -- Mental health -- Bullying -- Safety.**

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

114 (i) is offered at no cost to parents;

115 (ii) begins at or after 6 p.m.;

116 (iii) is held in at least one school located in the school district; and

117 (iv) covers the topics described in Subsection (2).

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

120 (c) A school district may:  
 121 (i) develop its own curriculum for the seminar described in Subsection (1)(a); or  
 122 (ii) use the curriculum developed by the State Board of Education under Subsection  
 123 (2).

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

127 (2) The State Board of Education shall:

128 (a) develop a curriculum for the parent seminar described in Subsection (1) that  
 129 includes information on:

- 130 (i) substance abuse, including illegal drugs and prescription drugs and prevention;
- 131 (ii) bullying;
- 132 (iii) mental health, depression, suicide awareness, and suicide prevention, including  
 133 education on limiting access to fatal means; and
- 134 (iv) Internet safety, including pornography addiction; and

135 (b) provide the curriculum, including resources and training, to school districts upon  
 136 request.

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

141 ~~[(4)]~~ (3) The State Board of Education shall report to the Legislature's Education  
 142 Interim Committee, by the ~~[November 2014]~~ October 2015 meeting, on:

- 143 (a) the progress of implementation of the parent seminar;
- 144 (b) the number of parent seminars conducted in each school district;
- 145 ~~[(b)]~~ (c) the estimated attendance reported by each school district;
- 146 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) a recommendation of whether to continue the parent seminar program; and
- 147 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) if a local school board has opted out of providing the parent seminar, as  
 148 described in Subsection ~~[(5)]~~ (4), ~~[and]~~ the reasons why a local school board opted out.

149 ~~[(5)]~~ (4) (a) A school district is not required to offer the parent seminar if the local  
 150 school board determines that the topics described in Subsection (2) are not of significant

151 interest or value to families in the school district.

152 (b) If a local school board chooses not to offer the parent seminar, the local school  
153 board shall notify the State Board of Education and provide the reasons why the local school  
154 board chose not to offer the parent seminar.

155 Section 3. Section **62A-15-1101** is amended to read:

156 **62A-15-1101. Suicide prevention -- Reporting requirements.**

157 (1) As used in the section:

158 (a) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Criminal Identification created in Section [53-10-201](#)  
159 within the Department of Public Safety.

160 (b) "Division" means the [State] Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health.

161 (c) "Intervention" means an effort to prevent a person from attempting suicide.

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

164 (e) "State suicide prevention coordinator" means an individual designated by the  
165 division as described in Subsections (2) and (3).

166 (2) The division shall appoint a state suicide prevention coordinator to administer a  
167 state suicide prevention program comprised of suicide prevention, intervention, and  
168 postvention programs, services, and efforts.

169 (3) The state suicide prevention program may include the following components:

170 (a) delivery of resources, tools, and training to community-based coalitions;

171 (b) evidence-based suicide risk assessment tools and training;

172 (c) town hall meetings for building community-based suicide prevention strategies;

173 (d) suicide prevention gatekeeper training;

174 (e) training to identify warning signs and to manage an at-risk individual's crisis;

175 (f) evidence-based intervention training;

176 (g) intervention skills training; and

177 (h) postvention training.

178 [~~3~~] (4) The state suicide prevention coordinator shall coordinate [~~the suicide~~  
179 ~~prevention program, including suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention programs,~~  
180 ~~services, and efforts statewide,~~] with at least the following:

181 (a) local mental health and substance abuse authorities;

182 (b) the State Board of Education, including the State Office of Education suicide  
183 prevention coordinator described in Section 53A-15-1301;

184 (c) the Department of Health;

185 (d) health care providers, including emergency rooms; and

186 (e) other public health suicide prevention efforts.

187 (5) The state suicide prevention coordinator shall provide a written report, and shall  
188 orally report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee, by the October meeting  
189 every year, on:

190 (a) implementation of the state suicide prevention program, as described in Subsections  
191 (2) and (3);

192 (b) data measuring the effectiveness of each component of the state suicide prevention  
193 program;

194 (c) funds appropriated for each component of the state suicide prevention program; and

195 (d) five-year trends of suicides in Utah, including subgroups of youths and adults and  
196 other subgroups identified by the state suicide prevention coordinator.

197 ~~[(4)]~~ (6) The state suicide prevention coordinator shall report to the Legislature's  
198 Education Interim Committee, by the ~~[November 2014]~~ October 2015 meeting, jointly with the  
199 State Board of Education, on the coordination of suicide prevention programs and efforts with  
200 the State Board of Education and the State Office of Education suicide prevention coordinator  
201 as described in Section 53A-15-1301.

202 ~~[(5)]~~ (7) The state suicide prevention coordinator shall consult with the bureau to  
203 implement and manage the operation of a firearm safety program, as described in Subsection  
204 53-10-202(18) and Section 53-10-202.1.

205 (8) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the  
206 division shall make rules governing the implementation of the state suicide prevention  
207 program, consistent with this section.

208 **Section 4. Appropriation.**

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

213 addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2015.

214 To State Board of Education - Office of Education

215 From Education Fund, one-time \$150,000

216 Schedule of Programs:

217 Anti-bullying programs \$150,000

218 The Legislature intends that the State Board of Education:

219 (1) expend appropriations under this section to implement the programs and training

220 described in Section 53A-15-1301 addressing bullying and cyberbullying; and

221 (2) make \$1,000 available to each requesting school, for the school to choose a

222 program or training curriculum from a Utah-based organization that is tax exempt under

223 Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code, and that is focused on programs and training

224 addressing bullying and cyberbulling.

225 To Department of Human Services - Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

226 From General Fund, one-time \$210,000

227 Schedule of Programs:

228 State Suicide Prevention Program \$210,000

229 **Section 5. Appropriation.**

230 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for

231 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, the following sums of money

232 are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts

233 previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated. These sums of money are in

234 addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2016.

235 To Department of Public Safety - Programs and Operations

236 From General Fund Restricted - Firearm Safety Account \$65,000

237 Schedule of Programs:

238 Bureau of Criminal Identification \$65,000

239 To Department of Human Services - Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health

240 From General Fund \$191,000

241 Schedule of Programs:

242 State Suicide Prevention Program \$191,000

243 **Section 6. Effective date.**



244 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect on May 12, 2015.

245 (2) Uncodified Section 5, Appropriation, takes effect on July 1, 2015.

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**Legislative Review Note**  
as of 2-19-15 1:04 PM

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**