

988 MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS ASSISTANCE

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Daniel W. Thatcher

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the 988 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Account.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates the 988 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Account; and
- ▶ describes the purposes for which the 988 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Account may be used.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

26A-14-1.5, Utah Code Annotated 1953

62A-15-120, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **26A-14-1.5** is enacted to read:

26A-14-1.5. Crisis services -- Reimbursement.

The Department shall submit a waiver or state plan amendment to allow for reimbursement for 988 services provided to an individual who is eligible and enrolled in



29 Medicaid at the time this service is provided.

30 Section 2. Section **62A-15-120** is enacted to read:

31 **62A-15-120. 988 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Account -- Creation --**
32 **Administration -- Permitted uses.**

33 (1) There is created a restricted account within the General Fund known as the "988
34 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Account," consisting of:

35 (a) money appropriated or otherwise made available by the Legislature; and

36 (b) contributions of money, property, or equipment from federal agencies, political
37 subdivisions of the state, or other persons.

38 (2) (a) The division shall disburse funds in the 988 account only for the purpose of
39 support or implementation of 988 services or enhancements of those services in order to rapidly,
40 efficiently, effectively, and with greater interoperability deliver 988 services in the state.

41 (b) Funds distributed from the 988 account to county local mental health and substance
42 abuse authorities for the provision of crisis services are not subject to the 20% county match
43 described in Sections [17-43-201](#) and [17-43-301](#).

44 (c) The division shall prioritize expending funds from the 988 Restricted Account as
45 follows:

46 (i) the Statewide Mental Health Crisis Line, as defined in Section [62A-15-1301](#),
47 including coordination with 911 emergency service, as defined in Section [69-2-102](#), and
48 coordination with local substance abuse authorities as described in Section [17-43-201](#), and
49 local mental health authorities, described in Section [17-43-301](#);

50 (ii) mitigation of any negative impacts on 911 emergency service from 988 services;

51 (iii) mobile crisis outreach teams as defined in Section [62A-15-1401](#), distributed in
52 accordance with rules made by the division in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah

53 Administrative Rulemaking Act;

54 (iv) behavioral health receiving centers as defined in Section [62A-15-118](#);

55 (v) stabilization services as described in Section [62A-1-104](#); and

56 (vi) mental health crisis services provided by local substance abuse authorities as
57 described in Section [17-43-201](#) and local mental health authorities described in Section
58 [17-43-301](#) to provide prolonged mental health services for up to 90 days after the day on which
59 an individual experiences a mental health crisis.

60 (3) Subject to appropriations by the Legislature, the division may expend funds in the

61 988 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Restricted Account for administrative costs that the
62 division incurs related to administering the 988 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Account.

63 (4) The division director shall submit and make available to the public a report before
64 December of each year to the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Commission as defined in
65 Section [63C-18-202](#), the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee, and the Legislative
66 Management Committee that includes:

67 (a) the amount of each disbursement from the restricted account described in Section
68 [62A-15-120](#);

69 (b) the recipient of each disbursement, the goods and services received, and a
70 description of the project funded by the disbursement;

71 (c) any conditions placed by the division on the disbursements from the restricted
72 account;

73 (d) the anticipated expenditures from the restricted account described in this chapter for
74 the next fiscal year;

75 (e) the amount of any unexpended funds carried forward; and

76 (f) other relevant justification for ongoing support from the restricted account created by
77 Section [62A-15-120](#).

78 **Section 3. Effective date.**

79 If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes effect
80 upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah
81 Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto, the
82 date of veto override.