

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CURRICULUM PROGRAM

2022 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Daniel W. Thatcher

House Sponsor: Steve Eliason

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires the Huntsman Mental Health Institute, within the University of Utah, to develop a youth behavioral health curriculum.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms; and
- ▶ requires the Huntsman Mental Health Institute, within the University of Utah, to:
 - coordinate with the State Board of Education to develop a youth curriculum on behavioral health;
 - publish the curriculum online; and
 - annually update the curriculum and distribute the curriculum to certain

individuals and organizations in the state.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53B-17-1301, Utah Code Annotated 1953

53B-17-1302, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

30 Section 1. Section **53B-17-1301** is enacted to read:

31 **Part 13. Behavioral Health Services**

32 **53B-17-1301. Definitions.**

33 As used in this part, "Huntsman Mental Health Institute" means the mental health and
34 substance use treatment institute within the University of Utah.

35 Section 2. Section **53B-17-1302** is enacted to read:

36 **53B-17-1302. Huntsman Mental Health Institute -- Behavioral health curriculum.**

37 (1) The Huntsman Mental Health Institute shall coordinate with the State Board of
38 Education to develop a youth curriculum to increase awareness about behavioral health
39 challenges facing youth in the state.

40 (2) The curriculum described in Subsection (1) shall include age-appropriate
41 information on:

42 (a) the connection and importance of mental health to overall health;

43 (b) tools for maintaining mental health wellness, including evidence-based practices
44 used to overcome behavioral health challenges;

45 (c) signs and symptoms of common behavioral health challenges and ways to respond
46 to the signs and symptoms;

47 (d) the prevalence of behavioral health challenges across all populations;

48 (e) common behavioral health conditions and evidence-based treatments for common
49 behavioral health conditions; and

50 (f) how to seek assistance or find support for a behavioral health challenge in a school
51 and the community.

52 (3) The Huntsman Mental Health Institute shall annually:

53 (a) update the curriculum in coordination with the State Board of Education;

54 (b) publish the curriculum on the Huntsman Mental Health Institute's website in a
55 conspicuous location; and

- 56 (c) distribute the curriculum as a resource to:
57 (i) parents and guardians of elementary and secondary school students;
58 (ii) elementary and secondary schools; and
59 (iii) other organizations that serve youth in the state.
60 (4) The Huntsman Mental Health Institute shall consider feedback provided to the
61 Huntsman Mental Health Institute about the curriculum when annually updating the curriculum
62 under Subsection (3)(a).