

Representative Sahara Hayes proposes the following substitute bill:

**FIREARM SAFETY AND SUICIDE PREVENTION EDUCATION
REQUIREMENTS**

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Sahara Hayes

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies requirements for a youth suicide prevention program implemented by a school district or charter school.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ requires a school district or charter school youth suicide prevention program to consider access to age appropriate firearm safety and suicide prevention materials;
- and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53G-9-702, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 105



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

27 Section 1. Section **53G-9-702** is amended to read:

28 **53G-9-702. Youth suicide prevention programs -- State board to develop model**
29 **programs.**

30 (1) As used in the section:

31 (a) "Elementary grades" means:

32 (i) kindergarten through grade 5; and

33 (ii) if the associated middle or junior high school does not include grade 6, grade 6.

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

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

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

38 (e) "Public education suicide prevention coordinator" means an individual designated
39 by the state board as described in Subsection (4).

40 (f) "Secondary grades" means:

41 (i) grades 7 through 12; and

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

43 (g) "State suicide prevention coordinator" means the state suicide prevention
44 coordinator described in Section [62A-15-1101](#).

45 (h) "State superintendent" means the state superintendent of public instruction
46 appointed under Section [53E-3-301](#).

47 (2) In collaboration with the public education suicide prevention coordinator, a school
48 district or charter school shall implement a youth suicide prevention program, which, in
49 collaboration with the training, programs, and initiatives described in Section [53G-9-607](#), shall
50 include programs and training to address:

51 (a) for elementary grades and secondary grades:

52 (i) life-affirming education, including on the concepts of resiliency, healthy habits,
53 self-care, problem solving, and conflict resolution;

54 (ii) methods of strengthening the family; and

55 (iii) methods of strengthening a youth's relationships in the school and community; and

56 (b) for secondary grades:

- 57 (i) prevention of youth suicide;
- 58 (ii) decreasing the risk of suicide among youth who are:
- 59 (A) not accepted by family for any reason, including lesbian, gay, bisexual,
- 60 transgender, or questioning youth; or
- 61 (B) suffer from bullying;
- 62 (iii) youth suicide intervention; and
- 63 (iv) postvention for family, students, and faculty.
- 64 (3) Each school district and charter school shall ensure that the youth suicide
- 65 prevention program described in Subsection (2):
- 66 (a) considers appropriate coordination with the following prevention programs:
- 67 (i) the prevention of bullying and cyber-bullying, as those terms are defined in Section
- 68 [53G-9-601](#); and
- 69 (ii) the prevention of underage drinking of alcohol and substance abuse under Section
- 70 [53G-10-406](#); ~~[and]~~
- 71 (b) considers access to age appropriate firearm safety and suicide prevention materials
- 72 selected by the state superintendent in collaboration with the state suicide prevention
- 73 coordinator; and
- 74 ~~[(b)]~~ (c) includes provisions to ensure that the school district or charter school
- 75 promptly communicates with the parent or guardian of a student in accordance with Section
- 76 [53G-9-604](#).
- 77 (4) The state board shall:
- 78 (a) designate a public education suicide prevention coordinator; and
- 79 (b) in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services and the state
- 80 suicide prevention coordinator, develop model programs to provide to school districts and
- 81 charter schools:
- 82 (i) program training; and
- 83 (ii) resources regarding the required components described in Subsections (2)(a) and
- 84 (b).
- 85 (5) The public education suicide prevention coordinator shall:
- 86 (a) oversee the youth suicide prevention programs of school districts and charter
- 87 schools; and

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

90 (6) A public school suicide prevention program may allow school personnel to ask a
91 student questions related to youth suicide prevention, intervention, or postvention.

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

96 (b) The state board shall ensure that an LEA's allocation of funds from the board's
97 distribution of money under Subsection (7)(a) provides an amount equal to at least \$1,000 per
98 school.

99 (c) (i) A school shall use money allocated to the school under Subsection (7)(b) to
100 implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs,
101 for preventing suicide.

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

104 (8) An LEA may not charge indirect costs to the program.

105 **Section 2. Effective date.**

106 This bill takes effect on August 1, 2023.