

HB 601 -- Suicide Prevention

Sponsor: Johnson (61)

This bill establishes the Suicide Prevention Advisory Committee within the Department of Mental Health. The committee will be responsible for oversight, support, and promotion of departmental suicide prevention activities and for reviewing and recommending changes to laws, regulations, and policies. The committee will provide a biannual report on their findings. The membership and meeting requirements for the committee are specified.

Certain mental health professionals, substance abuse counselors, and other trained persons who render suicide prevention interventions are exempt from civil damages.

The departments of Mental Health and Health and Senior Services are required to seek additional funding from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to allow participation in the National Violent Death Reporting System.

The provisions of the bill will expire six years from the effective date.