

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1148
103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2555H.02C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 630, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the 988 Lifeline, with an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 630, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 630.1180, to read as follows:

630.1180. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

- 2 **(1) "988", the telephone number designated as the universal telephone number**
3 **within the United States for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental**
4 **health crisis hotline system operating through the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, or its**
5 **successor, maintained by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use**
6 **under 42 U.S.C. Section 290bb-36c;**
7 **(2) "988 client", any individual who initiates a 988 contact;**
8 **(3) "988 contact", a communication with the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**
9 **system within the United States via modalities offered including call, chat, or text;**
10 **(4) "988 crisis counselor", any individual who responds to 988 contacts on behalf**
11 **of a 988 Lifeline center;**
12 **(5) "988 Lifeline center", a state-identified center that is a member of the Suicide**
13 **and Crisis Lifeline network that responds to statewide or regional 988 contacts;**
14 **(6) "988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline" or "988 Lifeline", the national suicide**
15 **prevention and mental health crisis hotline system maintained by the Assistant**
16 **Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use under 42 U.S.C. Section 290bb-36c.**
17 **2. To the extent allowed by federal law, the department of mental health shall**
18 **require 988 Lifeline centers to comply with the following standards:**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

19 **(1) Upon initial receipt of any 988 contact, the 988 crisis counselor shall first ask**
20 **the 988 client what the crisis is; and**

21 **(2) Whether the client requires the assistance of and connection to the 911**
22 **system or is instead seeking only to talk with the 988 crisis counselor.**

 Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to address pressing matters of
2 mental health emergencies, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate
3 preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an
4 emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full
5 force and effect upon its passage and approval.

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