

HCS HB 1148 -- 988 LIFELINE

SPONSOR: Byrnes

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 13 to 1.

To the extent possible by Federal law, this bill requires the Department of Mental Health to require the 988 Lifeline to follow the below standards:

- (1) When first contacted by an individual, the crisis counselor must first ask the individual what the crisis is; and
- (2) Whether the client requires the assistance of and connection to the 911 system or is instead seeking only to talk with the 988 crisis counselor.

This bill contains an emergency clause.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that it is imperative to improve on mental health and suicide awareness services as well as to ensure accountability from these entities.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Byrnes and Arnie C. Dienoff.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.