

HOUSE BILL NO. 3488

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAMS.

7135H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 170.048, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to students at risk of suicide or self-harm.

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

Section A. Section 170.048, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 170.048, to read as follows:

170.048. 1. By July 1, 2018, each district shall adopt a policy for youth suicide awareness and prevention, including plans for how the district will provide for the training and education of its district employees.

2. (1) Each district's policy shall address and include, but not be limited to, the following:

~~(1)~~ (a) Strategies that can help identify students who are at possible risk of suicide;

~~(2)~~ (b) Strategies and protocols for helping students at possible risk of suicide; and

~~(3)~~ (c) Protocols for responding to a suicide death.

(2) **By July 1, 2027, the district's policy under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall include protocols for helping students who may be at risk of self-harm.**

3. By July 1, 2017, the department of elementary and secondary education shall develop a model policy that districts may adopt. When developing the model policy, the department shall cooperate, consult with, and seek input from organizations that have expertise in youth suicide awareness and prevention. By July 1, 2021, and at least every three years thereafter, the department shall request information and seek feedback from districts on their experience with the policy for youth suicide awareness and prevention. The department shall review this information and may use it to adapt the department's model policy. The

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.

18 department shall post any information on its website that it has received from districts that it
19 deems relevant. The department shall not post any confidential information or any
20 information that personally identifies any student or school employee.

21 4. (1) Beginning July 1, 2025, a public school or charter school that serves any pupils
22 in grades seven to twelve and that issues pupil identification cards shall have printed on either
23 side of the cards:

24 (a) The three-digit dialing code that directs calls and routes text messages to the
25 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, 988; and

26 (b) The nonemergency telephone number of the local police department; and

27 (c) May have printed on either side of the cards:

28 a. The six-digit dialing code that routes text messages to the Crisis Text Line, 741741;
29 and

30 b. The telephone number of a local suicide prevention hotline, if such hotline is
31 available.

32 (2) If, on July 1, 2025, a public school or charter school subject to the requirements of
33 this subsection has a supply of unissued pupil identification cards that do not comply with the
34 requirements of subdivision (1) of this subsection, the school shall issue those cards until that
35 supply is depleted.

36 (3) Subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to a pupil identification card issued
37 for the first time to a pupil and to a card issued to replace a damaged or lost card.

38 **5. (1) Beginning July 1, 2027, the district's policy under subsection 2 of this**
39 **section shall include protocols for teachers, counselors, principals, administrators, or**
40 **other school personnel to report to a designated staff member at the school any student**
41 **who is at possible risk of suicide or a student who has mentioned self-harm.**

42 **(2) The designated staff member, upon any report made under subdivision (1) of**
43 **this subsection, shall immediately notify the parent or legal guardian of the student who**
44 **is at possible risk of suicide or who has mentioned self-harm, and if necessary, children's**
45 **services may be contacted. The designated staff member shall perform a risk**
46 **assessment on such student, and the student shall not be released from school until the**
47 **parent or legal guardian has received notification under this subdivision.**

48 **(3) Notification to the parent or legal guardian shall be repeated until the parent**
49 **or legal guardian provides confirmation that he or she is aware that his or her child is at**
50 **risk of possible suicide or self-harm.**

51 **(4) Teachers, counselors, principals, administrators, or other school personnel**
52 **shall be immune from civil liability or employment discipline for any action taken under**
53 **this subsection.**

✓