

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 561

Ordered by the Senate April 15
Including Senate Amendments dated April 15

Sponsored by Senator GELSER

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Directs Department of Human Services to submit report to interim legislative committees no later than July 1, 2016, regarding occurrences of suicide and status of suicide prevention efforts in Oregon.]

Directs Oregon Health Authority to develop plan for communication among local mental health authorities and systems to improve notifications and information-sharing when death suspected to be suicide involves individual 24 years of age or younger. Specifies entities to be involved in development of plan. Requires local mental health authority to inform Oregon Health Authority within seven days after suicide death of individual 24 years of age or younger. Requires Oregon Health Authority to serve as resource to local authority as needed by community.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to suicide; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas communities and local entities can benefit from the support of the Oregon Health Au-
4 thority following a suicide; and

5 Whereas this legislation is designed to ensure that expertise in suicide prevention, intervention
6 and post-intervention is readily available in a timely manner; now, therefore,

7 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

8 **SECTION 1.** (1) As used in this section, "local mental health authority" has the meaning
9 given that term in ORS 430.630.

10 (2) **The Oregon Health Authority shall develop a plan for communication among local**
11 **mental health authorities and local systems to improve notifications and information-sharing**
12 **when a death that is suspected to be a suicide involves an individual who is 24 years of age**
13 **or younger. The plan must address community suicide response and post-intervention efforts**
14 **to address loss and the potential of contagion risk. The following entities may be involved in**
15 **developing and implementing the plan:**

16 (a) **Public school districts;**

17 (b) **Public universities listed in ORS 352.002, if the death involves an individual who is 24**
18 **years of age or younger;**

19 (c) **Private post-secondary institutions of education, if the death involves an individual**
20 **who is 24 years of age or younger; and**

21 (d) **Any facility that provides services or resources to runaway or homeless youth.**

22 (3) **Within seven days after a death that is suspected to be a suicide of an individual 24**
23 **years of age or younger, the local mental health authority in the area where the suicide oc-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 curred shall inform the Oregon Health Authority, in a manner and in a format to be deter-
2 mined by the authority, of activities implemented to support local entities and individuals
3 affected by the suicide and to prevent the risk of contagion. The authority shall serve as a
4 resource to the local mental health authority as needed by the community.

5 **SECTION 2.** This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
6 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
7 on its passage.

8
