

Senate Bill 52

Sponsored by Senators WAGNER, ROBLAN, Representative SMITH WARNER, Representatives DOHERTY, NOSSE, POWER, WILLIAMSON; Senators BURDICK, COURTNEY, DEMBROW, FREDERICK, GELSER, GOLDEN, HASS, MANNING JR, MONNES ANDERSON, PROZANSKI, RILEY, STEINER HAYWARD, TAYLOR, Representatives BARKER, GOMBERG, GORSEK, HERNANDEZ, LIVELY, MARSH, PILUSO, REARDON, SALINAS, SANCHEZ, SOLLMAN, WITT (at the request of Basic Rights Oregon) (Presession filed.)

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 **as introduced**.

Requires school district to adopt policy on student suicide prevention. Prescribes requirements of policy.

Directs school district to adopt policy by beginning of 2020-2021 school year.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to policies on student suicide prevention; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited as Adi's Act.**

5 **(2) Each school district shall adopt a policy on student suicide prevention for students in**
6 **kindergarten through grade 12.**

7 **(3) A school district may consult with state or national suicide prevention organizations,**
8 **the Department of Education, school-based mental health professionals, parents, guardians,**
9 **school employees, students and administrators when developing the policy required under**
10 **this section.**

11 **(4) A policy required under this section must include:**

12 **(a) Procedures relating to suicide prevention, intervention and activities that reduce risk**
13 **and promote healing after a suicide;**

14 **(b) Identification of the school officials responsible for the policy and for responding to**
15 **reports of suicidal risk;**

16 **(c) A procedure by which a person may request a school district to review the actions**
17 **of a school in responding to suicidal risk;**

18 **(d) Methods to address the needs of high-risk groups, including:**

19 **(A) Youth bereaved by suicide;**

20 **(B) Youth with disabilities, mental illness or substance use disorders;**

21 **(C) Youth experiencing homelessness or out-of-home settings, such as foster care; and**

22 **(D) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and other minority gender identities and**
23 **sexual orientations;**

24 **(e) A statement about how the policy will be made known to employees of the school**
25 **district and the community of the school district, which must include making the policy:**

26 **(A) Annually available to parents, guardians, school employees and students in the stu-**
27 **dent and employee handbooks; and**

28 **(B) Readily available to parents, guardians, school employees, volunteers, students, ad-**

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 administrators and community representatives at each school office or at the school district
2 office and, if available, on the website for the school or school district;

3 (f) A description of, and materials for, any training to be provided to school employees
4 on suicide awareness and prevention, including:

5 (A) Materials approved by the school district for training, which must include how to
6 identify appropriate mental health services, both at the school site and within the commu-
7 nity, and when and how to refer youth and their families to those services; and

8 (B) A description of training components, which must include programs that can be
9 completed through self-review of suitable suicide prevention materials; and

10 (g) Any other requirement prescribed by the State Board of Education by rule, based on
11 consultations with state and national suicide prevention organizations, suicide experts and
12 school-based mental health providers and based on reviews of national models.

13 (5) The policy required under this section must be written to ensure that a school em-
14 ployee acts only within the authorization and scope of the employee's credentials or licenses.
15 Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing or encouraging a school employee
16 to diagnose or treat mental illness unless the employee is specifically licensed and employed
17 to do so.

18 (6) A school district that does not comply with the requirements of this section is con-
19 sidered to be nonstandard under ORS 327.103.

20 **SECTION 2.** (1) Section 1 of this 2019 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2020.

21 (2) Notwithstanding the operative date set forth in subsection (1) of this section, the
22 Department of Education and school districts may take any action before the operative date
23 set forth in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for a school district to adopt a
24 policy on student suicide prevention by the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.

25 **SECTION 3.** This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
26 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
27 on its passage.