

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 18-0552.02 Jane Ritter x4342

**SENATE BILL 18-114**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING PREVENTING SUICIDE BY STRENGTHENING LIFE SKILLS IN**  
102 **STUDENTS.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill encourages school districts, public schools, charter schools, and institute charter schools (schools) to develop and adopt a student suicide prevention policy (prevention policy) and to designate a staff person to serve as a student suicide prevention coordinator for the school. Each school may select the type of training and programs to use that best suit its individual needs, but schools are encouraged to include

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

in prevention policies:

- ! A tiered training approach for school personnel;
- ! Life skills, social emotional learning, and resiliency training for students that is integrated throughout all areas of the curricula, to the extent possible;
- ! Training for students to effectively educate their peers about suicide risk factors, signs, and symptoms, as well as the importance of reaching out to a trusted adult when needed;
- ! Parent education about suicide; and
- ! The use of curricula and professional development materials, training, and other resources from the office of suicide prevention (OSP) in the department of public health and environment (department), the school safety resource center in the department of public safety, and the Colorado parent and teacher association.

The student suicide prevention grant program for schools (grant program) is created in the department, to be administered by the department. The purpose of the grant program is to provide financial assistance to schools in the development and implementation of prevention policies. The grant program may authorize up to 25 grants per year, ranging between \$5,000 and \$10,000. The state board of health shall promulgate rules concerning the guidelines and criteria for the grant program. An advisory board is created in the OSP to work in collaboration with the department to make recommendations concerning guidelines and criteria, assist with reviewing grant applications, and make recommendations concerning grant awards.

The student suicide prevention grant program for schools fund is created and authorized to accept appropriations from the general assembly, as well as gifts, grants, and donations.

The department is required to post on its website available evidence-based best practices and other resources for persons involved in student suicide prevention.

The bill makes conforming amendments that authorize the existing office of suicide prevention in statute.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 finds and declares that:

4           (a) A recent report from the National Center for Health Statistics  
5 found that the suicide rate among youth between the ages of fifteen and

1 nineteen who live in rural counties is nearly double the suicide rate  
2 among the same age group who live in larger, more urban counties;

3 (b) Suicide is the leading cause of death for young people in  
4 Colorado;

5 (c) A 2012 report of the U.S. surgeon general and the National  
6 Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention included the following goals and  
7 objectives as part of effective suicide prevention:

8 (I) To the extent possible, integrate suicide prevention programs  
9 into the values, culture, leadership, and work of a broad range of existing  
10 organizations and programs with a role to support suicide prevention  
11 activities;

12 (II) Disseminate positive messages that focus on recovery and  
13 hope, with the goal of changing knowledge, attitude, and behaviors, as  
14 well as reducing the biases and prejudices associated with mental health  
15 and substance use disorders;

16 (III) Educate family members, friends, teachers, coaches, and  
17 others to increase knowledge of the warning signs of suicidal thoughts  
18 and behaviors and how to connect individuals in crisis with assistance;

19 (IV) Promote effective programs and practices that increase  
20 protective factors, such as problem-solving skills, social support and  
21 social connectedness, school safety, and increased emphasis on and  
22 availability of extracurricular activities; and

23 (V) Schools in particular should implement programs and policies  
24 that prevent abuse, bullying, violence, and social exclusion; build social  
25 connectedness and promote positive mental and emotional health; and  
26 integrate information about the responsible depiction of suicide and  
27 suicide-related behaviors into various school curricula. Schools must

1 ensure that students have access to mental health and counseling services  
2 and must train relevant school staff to recognize warning signs of suicidal  
3 behavior;

4 (d) Research has demonstrated that in addition to helping prevent  
5 suicide in young people, social emotional learning programs in schools  
6 are associated with greater academic performance as well as progress  
7 toward graduation;

8 (e) The recommendations of the Colorado suicide prevention  
9 commission for youth include supporting schools in implementing  
10 comprehensive protocols, including training all staff, and providing  
11 evidence-based programming focused on enhancing protective factors for  
12 youth; and

13 (f) According to the 2015 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey:

14 (I) More than twenty-nine percent of Colorado high school  
15 students indicated feeling sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks  
16 or more during the previous twelve months, and nearly eighteen percent  
17 of Colorado high school students reported considering suicide, with  
18 nearly eight percent making one or more suicide attempts in the previous  
19 twelve months; and

20 (II) Significant health disparities persist for students who are gay,  
21 lesbian, transgender, or bisexual, with more than forty-six percent of that  
22 demographic reporting that they considered suicide and more than  
23 twenty-five percent had attempted suicide in the previous twelve months.

24 (2) The general assembly therefore declares that youth suicide  
25 prevention is a matter of statewide concern, and it is in the best interests  
26 of the children and youth of the state of Colorado to strongly encourage  
27 all school districts and charter schools to work with the office of suicide

1 prevention in the department of public health and environment, the school  
2 safety resource center in the department of public safety, the department  
3 of education, and other community organizations to develop and adopt  
4 comprehensive suicide prevention policies tailored for individual districts  
5 and schools, including recommended suicide prevention training  
6 programs, and to designate a staff member to serve as the student suicide  
7 prevention coordinator for a school district, school, or charter school.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-32-109.1, **add**  
9 (2.7) as follows:

10 **22-32-109.1. Board of education - specific powers and duties**  
11 **- safe school plan - conduct and discipline code - safe school reporting**  
12 **requirements - school response framework - school resource officers**  
13 **- definitions - repeal. (2.7) Safe school plan - student suicide**  
14 **prevention policy and coordinator. (a) AS PART OF ITS SAFE SCHOOL**  
15 **PLAN, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IS ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP AND ADOPT A**  
16 **STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY AND TO DESIGNATE A STAFF PERSON**  
17 **TO SERVE AS THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR FOR THE**  
18 **SCHOOL DISTRICT. STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICIES MUST WORK**  
19 **TOWARD INCREASING PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND DECREASING RISK**  
20 **FACTORS FOR STUDENT SUICIDE.**

21 (b) EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IS ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE IN ITS  
22 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY THE FOLLOWING TIERED TRAINING  
23 APPROACH FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL THAT EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE  
24 OF IDENTIFYING STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK AND THE NEED TO REFER  
25 SUCH STUDENTS FOR APPROPRIATE TREATMENT:

26 (I) SCHOOL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS MUST COMPLETE  
27 COMPREHENSIVE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING AS PART OF THE

1 ORIENTATION PROCESS;

2 (II) TEACHERS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS MUST  
3 COMPLETE A SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE TIME OF  
4 HIRING AND EVERY FOUR YEARS THEREAFTER;

5 (III) ALL OTHER SCHOOL STAFF WHO HAVE CONTACT WITH  
6 STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE, AT A MINIMUM, A BASIC TRAINING AT THE  
7 TIME OF HIRING THAT TEACHES THEM HOW TO IDENTIFY WARNING SIGNS  
8 OF SUICIDE AND STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK OF SUICIDE AND HOW TO  
9 REFER SUCH STUDENTS FOR APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AND ASSISTANCE.

10 (c) A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY DEVELOPED AND  
11 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2.7) MUST INCLUDE LIFE SKILLS,  
12 SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' CAPACITY TO DEAL  
13 EFFECTIVELY WITH STRESSFUL SITUATIONS, AND RESILIENCY TRAINING.  
14 MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION EDUCATION MUST BE  
15 INCLUDED IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND,  
16 TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, INTEGRATED THROUGHOUT ALL AREAS OF THE  
17 CURRICULA.

18 (d) EACH SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL DISTRICT IS STRONGLY  
19 ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE TRAINING FOR STUDENTS TO EFFECTIVELY  
20 EDUCATE THEIR PEERS ABOUT SUICIDE RISK FACTORS, SIGNS, AND  
21 SYMPTOMS, AS WELL AS THE IMPORTANCE OF REACHING OUT TO A  
22 TRUSTED ADULT WHEN NEEDED.

23 (e) PARENT EDUCATION ABOUT SUICIDE PREVENTION MUST BE A  
24 PART OF A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY DEVELOPED AND  
25 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2.7), INCLUDING MEETINGS,  
26 PRINTED INFORMATION, AND ONLINE RESOURCES, AS FEASIBLE.

27 (f) EACH SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY SELECT THE

1 TYPE OF TRAINING AND PROGRAMS THAT BEST SUIT ITS NEEDS BUT IS  
2 ENCOURAGED TO USE CURRICULA AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
3 MATERIALS, TRAINING, AND OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM THE  
4 OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
5 AND ENVIRONMENT, CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w), THE SCHOOL  
6 SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
7 CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1803, AND THE COLORADO PARENT AND  
8 TEACHER ASSOCIATION. THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AND THE  
9 SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER SHALL WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH  
10 AN INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR SCHOOL, AT THE DISTRICT'S OR  
11 SCHOOL'S REQUEST, TO PROVIDE VARIOUS EXISTING EVIDENCE-BASED AND  
12 EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS USE EXISTING PROGRAMS  
13 AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT CAN HELP PROVIDE  
14 SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.

15 (g) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR SCHOOL MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM  
16 THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS,  
17 CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-113, FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE  
18 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBSECTION (2.7).

19 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-30.5-121 as  
20 follows:

21 **22-30.5-121. Charter schools - student suicide prevention**  
22 **policy.** (1) (a) EACH CHARTER SCHOOL IS ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP AND  
23 ADOPT A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY AND TO DESIGNATE A  
24 STAFF PERSON TO SERVE AS THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION  
25 COORDINATOR FOR THE CHARTER SCHOOL. STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION  
26 POLICIES MUST WORK TOWARD INCREASING PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND  
27 DECREASING RISK FACTORS FOR STUDENT SUICIDE.

1           (b) EACH CHARTER SCHOOL IS ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE IN ITS  
2 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY THE FOLLOWING TIERED TRAINING  
3 APPROACH FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL THAT EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE  
4 OF IDENTIFYING STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK AND THE NEED TO REFER  
5 SUCH STUDENTS FOR APPROPRIATE TREATMENT:

6           (I) SCHOOL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS MUST COMPLETE  
7 COMPREHENSIVE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING AS PART OF THE  
8 ORIENTATION PROCESS;

9           (II) TEACHERS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS MUST  
10 COMPLETE A SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE TIME OF  
11 HIRING AND EVERY FOUR YEARS THEREAFTER;

12           (III) ALL OTHER CHARTER SCHOOL STAFF WHO HAVE CONTACT  
13 WITH STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE, AT A MINIMUM, A BASIC TRAINING AT  
14 THE TIME OF HIRING THAT TEACHES THEM HOW TO IDENTIFY WARNING  
15 SIGNS OF SUICIDE AND STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK OF SUICIDE AND HOW  
16 TO REFER SUCH STUDENTS FOR APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AND  
17 ASSISTANCE.

18           (c) A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY DEVELOPED AND  
19 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST INCLUDE LIFE SKILLS, SOCIAL  
20 EMOTIONAL LEARNING TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' CAPACITY TO DEAL  
21 EFFECTIVELY WITH STRESSFUL SITUATIONS, AND RESILIENCY TRAINING.  
22 MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION EDUCATION MUST BE  
23 INCLUDED IN A CHARTER SCHOOL'S HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND,  
24 TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, BE INTEGRATED THROUGHOUT ALL AREAS OF  
25 THE CURRICULA.

26           (d) EACH CHARTER SCHOOL IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO  
27 PROVIDE TRAINING FOR STUDENTS TO EFFECTIVELY EDUCATE THEIR PEERS



1 ABOUT SUICIDE RISK FACTORS, SIGNS, AND SYMPTOMS, AS WELL AS THE  
2 IMPORTANCE OF REACHING OUT TO A TRUSTED ADULT WHEN NEEDED.

3 (e) PARENT EDUCATION ABOUT SUICIDE PREVENTION MUST BE A  
4 PART OF A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY DEVELOPED AND  
5 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, INCLUDING MEETINGS, PRINTED  
6 INFORMATION, AND ONLINE RESOURCES, AS FEASIBLE.

7 (f) EACH CHARTER SCHOOL MAY SELECT THE TYPE OF TRAINING  
8 AND PROGRAMS THAT BEST SUIT ITS NEEDS BUT IS ENCOURAGED TO USE  
9 CURRICULA AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MATERIALS, TRAINING,  
10 AND OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE  
11 PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT,  
12 CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w), THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE  
13 CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY CREATED IN SECTION  
14 24-33.5-1803, AND THE COLORADO PARENT AND TEACHER ASSOCIATION.  
15 THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AND THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE  
16 CENTER SHALL WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH AN INDIVIDUAL CHARTER  
17 SCHOOL, AT THE SCHOOL'S REQUEST, TO PROVIDE VARIOUS EXISTING  
18 EVIDENCE-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS USE  
19 EXISTING PROGRAMS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT CAN  
20 HELP PROVIDE SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.

21 (2) A CHARTER SCHOOL MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE  
22 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS, CREATED  
23 IN SECTION 25-1.5-113, FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE  
24 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

25 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 22-30.5-529** as  
26 follows:

27 **22-30.5-529. Institute charter schools - student suicide**

1 **prevention policy.** (1) (a) EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL IS  
2 ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP AND ADOPT A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION  
3 POLICY AND TO DESIGNATE A STAFF PERSON TO SERVE AS THE STUDENT  
4 SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATOR FOR THE INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL.  
5 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICIES MUST WORK TOWARD INCREASING  
6 PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND DECREASING RISK FACTORS FOR STUDENT  
7 SUICIDE.

8 (b) EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL IS ENCOURAGED TO  
9 INCLUDE IN ITS STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY THE FOLLOWING  
10 TIERED TRAINING APPROACH FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL THAT EMPHASIZES  
11 THE IMPORTANCE OF IDENTIFYING STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK AND THE  
12 NEED TO REFER SUCH STUDENTS FOR APPROPRIATE TREATMENT:

13 (I) INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS MUST  
14 COMPLETE COMPREHENSIVE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING AS PART OF  
15 THE ORIENTATION PROCESS;

16 (II) TEACHERS, COACHES, AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS MUST  
17 COMPLETE A SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE TIME OF  
18 HIRING AND EVERY FOUR YEARS THEREAFTER;

19 (III) ALL OTHER INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL STAFF WHO HAVE  
20 CONTACT WITH STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE, AT A MINIMUM, A BASIC  
21 TRAINING AT THE TIME OF HIRING THAT TEACHES THEM HOW TO IDENTIFY  
22 WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE AND STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK OF SUICIDE  
23 AND HOW TO REFER SUCH STUDENTS FOR APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AND  
24 ASSISTANCE.

25 (c) A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY DEVELOPED AND  
26 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MUST INCLUDE LIFE SKILLS, SOCIAL  
27 EMOTIONAL LEARNING TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' CAPACITY TO DEAL

1 EFFECTIVELY WITH STRESSFUL SITUATIONS, AND RESILIENCY TRAINING.  
2 MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION EDUCATION MUST BE  
3 INCLUDED IN AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL'S HEALTH EDUCATION  
4 PROGRAMS AND, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, BE INTEGRATED THROUGHOUT  
5 ALL AREAS OF THE CURRICULA.

6 (d) EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED  
7 TO PROVIDE TRAINING FOR STUDENTS TO EFFECTIVELY EDUCATE THEIR  
8 PEERS ABOUT SUICIDE RISK FACTORS, SIGNS, AND SYMPTOMS, AS WELL AS  
9 THE IMPORTANCE OF REACHING OUT TO A TRUSTED ADULT WHEN NEEDED.

10 (e) PARENT EDUCATION ABOUT SUICIDE PREVENTION MUST BE A  
11 PART OF A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY DEVELOPED AND  
12 ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, INCLUDING MEETINGS, PRINTED  
13 INFORMATION, AND ONLINE RESOURCES, AS FEASIBLE.

14 (f) EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL MAY SELECT THE TYPE OF  
15 TRAINING AND PROGRAMS THAT BEST SUIT ITS NEEDS BUT IS ENCOURAGED  
16 TO USE CURRICULA AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MATERIALS,  
17 TRAINING, AND OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE OF  
18 SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
19 ENVIRONMENT, CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w), THE SCHOOL  
20 SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
21 CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1803, AND THE COLORADO PARENT AND  
22 TEACHER ASSOCIATION. THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AND THE  
23 SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER SHALL WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH  
24 AN INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, AT THE SCHOOL'S REQUEST,  
25 TO PROVIDE VARIOUS EXISTING EVIDENCE-BASED AND  
26 EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS USE EXISTING PROGRAMS  
27 AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT CAN HELP PROVIDE

1 SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.

2 (2) AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT  
3 FROM THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS,  
4 CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-113, FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE  
5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

6 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-101, **amend**  
7 (1)(w)(I), (1)(w)(II), (1)(w)(III)(A), and (1)(w)(IV) introductory portion  
8 as follows:

9 **25-1.5-101. Powers and duties of department - laboratory cash**  
10 **fund.** (1) The department has, in addition to all other powers and duties  
11 imposed upon it by law, the powers and duties provided in this section as  
12 follows:

13 (w) (I) To ~~act~~ OPERATE THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION,  
14 WHICH IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED IN THE DIVISION OF PREVENTION SERVICES  
15 IN THE DEPARTMENT, THAT SERVES as the coordinator for suicide  
16 prevention programs throughout the state, including the Colorado suicide  
17 prevention plan established in section 25-1.5-112.

18 (II) The department is authorized to accept gifts, grants, and  
19 donations ~~to assist it in performing its duties as the coordinator for suicide~~  
20 ~~prevention programs~~ ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION.  
21 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT all such gifts, grants, and donations  
22 ~~shall be transmitted~~ to the state treasurer who shall credit the same to the  
23 suicide prevention coordination cash fund, which fund is hereby created.  
24 The fund also consists of any money appropriated or transferred to the  
25 fund by the general assembly for the purposes of implementing section  
26 25-1.5-112. Any ~~moneys~~ MONEY remaining in the suicide prevention  
27 coordination cash fund at the end of any fiscal year ~~shall~~ MUST remain in

1 the fund and ~~shall~~ MUST not be transferred or credited to the general fund.  
2 The general assembly shall make appropriations from the suicide  
3 prevention coordination cash fund for expenditures incurred by the  
4 department OR THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION in the performance of  
5 its duties ~~under this paragraph (w)~~ PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(w)  
6 and section 25-1.5-112.

7 (III) (A) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), as part of  
8 ~~its~~ THE duties ~~as coordinator for suicide prevention programs~~ OF THE  
9 OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION, on or before each November 1, the  
10 ~~department~~ OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION shall submit to the chairs of  
11 the senate health and human services committee and the house of  
12 representatives health, insurance, and environment committee, or their  
13 successor committees, and to the members of the joint budget committee,  
14 a report listing all suicide prevention programs in the state and describing  
15 the effectiveness of the ~~department~~ OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION IN  
16 acting as the coordinator for suicide prevention programs. For the report  
17 submitted in 2013 and each year thereafter, the ~~department~~ OFFICE OF  
18 SUICIDE PREVENTION shall include any findings and recommendations it  
19 has to improve suicide prevention in the state.

20 (IV) ~~In its role as coordinator for suicide prevention programs,~~  
21 The department AND THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION may collaborate  
22 with each facility licensed or certified pursuant to section 25-1.5-103 in  
23 order to coordinate suicide prevention services, including relevant  
24 training and other services as part of the Colorado suicide prevention plan  
25 established in section 25-1.5-112. When a facility treats a person who has  
26 attempted suicide or exhibits a suicidal gesture, the facility may provide  
27 oral and written information or educational materials to the person or, in

1 the case of a minor, to parents, relatives, or other responsible persons to  
2 whom the minor will be released, prior to the person's release, regarding  
3 warning signs of depression, risk factors of suicide, methods of  
4 preventing suicide, available suicide prevention resources, and any other  
5 information concerning suicide awareness and prevention. THE  
6 DEPARTMENT AND THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION MAY WORK WITH  
7 FAMILIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND SCHOOLS TO HELP YOUTH WHO HAVE  
8 BEEN TREATED FOR AN ATTEMPTED SUICIDE OR WHO HAVE EXHIBITED A  
9 SUICIDAL GESTURE TO TRANSITION BACK INTO SCHOOL. The department  
10 AND THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION may work with facilities and the  
11 Colorado suicide prevention plan to determine whether and where gaps  
12 exist in suicide prevention programs and services, including gaps that  
13 may be present in:

14 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 25-1.5-113** as  
15 follows:

16 **25-1.5-113. Student suicide prevention grant program for**  
17 **schools - definitions - creation - process - rules - reporting**  
18 **requirements - fund - advisory board.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION,  
19 UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

20 (a) "ADVISORY BOARD" MEANS THE ADVISORY BOARD CREATED  
21 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION.

22 (b) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
23 AND ENVIRONMENT CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION  
24 25-1-102.

25 (c) "FUND" MEANS THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT  
26 PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS  
27 SECTION.

1 (d) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION  
2 GRANT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS CREATED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS  
3 SECTION.

4 (e) "OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION" MEANS THE OFFICE OF  
5 SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO  
6 SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w).

7 (f) "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT; A  
8 DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL; AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL; OR A BOARD  
9 OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-5-103.

10 (g) "SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
11 EXISTING PURSUANT TO LAW.

12 (h) "SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER" MEANS THE SCHOOL  
13 SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY,  
14 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-33.5-1803.

15 (i) "STATE BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH CREATED  
16 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-1-103.

17 (2) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE STUDENT  
18 SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS. THE PURPOSE OF  
19 THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOL  
20 DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND  
21 IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICIES OR TRAINING  
22 PROGRAMS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-32-109.1 (2.7), 22-30.5-121, OR  
23 22-30.5-529. THE GRANT PROGRAM MAY AUTHORIZE UP TO TWENTY-FIVE  
24 GRANTS PER YEAR, RANGING FROM A MINIMUM OF FIVE THOUSAND  
25 DOLLARS TO A MAXIMUM OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS. ON AND AFTER  
26 JANUARY 1, 2019, A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR A PUBLIC SCHOOL MAY APPLY  
27 FOR A GRANT TO FUND EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE STUDENT SUICIDE RATE IN

1 THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL THROUGH THE ADOPTION OF A  
2 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY.

3 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM,  
4 IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ADVISORY BOARD, THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE  
5 PREVENTION, AND THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER.

6 (c) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION,  
7 THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF  
8 THIS SECTION UNTIL SUFFICIENT MONEY HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED OR  
9 APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND.

10 (d) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ADVISORY  
11 BOARD, SHALL ACCEPT AND REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FROM  
12 SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND MAY AWARD GRANTS IN  
13 ACCORDANCE WITH THE CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY RULE  
14 OF THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION AND  
15 BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD.

16 (e) EACH APPLICATION, AT A MINIMUM, MUST DESCRIBE HOW THE  
17 APPLICANT SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL WILL USE A GRANT  
18 AWARD TO REDUCE SUICIDES IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL.  
19 A GRANT RECIPIENT SHALL USE GRANT MONEY TO SUPPLEMENT AND NOT  
20 SUPPLANT ANY MONEY CURRENTLY BEING USED BY THE GRANT RECIPIENT  
21 TO REDUCE SUICIDES IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL.

22 (f) EACH GRANT RECIPIENT SHALL SUBMIT A WRITTEN REPORT TO  
23 THE DEPARTMENT NOT LATER THAN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE EXPIRATION  
24 OF THE TERM OF ITS GRANT. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF  
25 ACTIVITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GRANT MONEY.

26 (g) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), ON OR  
27 BEFORE A DATE SPECIFIED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO



1 SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT  
2 ANNUALLY TO THE STATE BOARD AND TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN  
3 SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND  
4 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR  
5 ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING  
6 THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IN THE PRECEDING YEAR:

7 (I) THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT  
8 RECEIVED A GRANT FROM THE GRANT PROGRAM;

9 (II) THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT AWARD BY RECIPIENT;

10 (III) THE NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO ARE ENROLLED AT EACH SCHOOL  
11 DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL OF EACH GRANT RECIPIENT;

12 (IV) THE NUMBER OF STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICIES  
13 THAT WERE DEVELOPED AND ADOPTED BY GRANT RECIPIENTS;

14 (V) THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL, STUDENTS, AND  
15 PARENTS TRAINED AND THROUGH WHAT PROGRAM OR METHOD; AND

16 (VI) THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION  
17 TRAINING PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED BY GRANT RECIPIENTS.

18 (3) (a) AN ADVISORY BOARD IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR  
19 THE PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDING TO THE STATE BOARD RULES FOR THE  
20 GRANT PROGRAM; REVIEWING, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE  
21 DEPARTMENT, GRANT APPLICATIONS; MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE  
22 DEPARTMENT ON WHICH SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT  
23 APPLIED SHOULD RECEIVE A GRANT FROM THE GRANT PROGRAM AND THE  
24 AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT; AND ACTING AS A RESOURCE FOR GRANTEEES.

25 (b) MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY BOARD MUST NOT EXCEED TEN  
26 MEMBERS AND MUST INCLUDE REPRESENTATION FROM THE FOLLOWING  
27 ENTITIES, AS APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE

1 PREVENTION NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2018:

2 (I) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION;

3 (II) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;

4 (III) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE  
5 CENTER;

6 (IV) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COLORADO YOUTH ADVISORY  
7 COUNCIL;

8 (V) REPRESENTATIVES FROM EDUCATION-ORIENTED AND SUICIDE  
9 PREVENTION NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY; AND

10 (VI) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION OF  
11 PARENTS AND TEACHERS.

12 (c) THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL CONVENE NO LATER THAN  
13 SEPTEMBER 1, 2018, AND DEVELOP A CALENDAR FOR MEETING TIMES,  
14 IDENTIFY KEY ISSUES, AND SET A TIMELINE BY WHICH RECOMMENDATIONS  
15 ARE TO BE MADE TO THE BOARD.

16 (4) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2018, THE STATE BOARD, USING  
17 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD, SHALL PROMULGATE  
18 RULES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

19 (a) APPLICATION PROCEDURES BY WHICH SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND  
20 PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION;

21 (b) CRITERIA FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND THE ADVISORY BOARD TO  
22 UTILIZE IN SELECTING SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO  
23 RECEIVE GRANTS AND IN DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF GRANT MONEY TO  
24 BE AWARDED TO EACH GRANT RECIPIENT. THE CRITERIA, AT A MINIMUM,  
25 MUST INCLUDE AN EMPHASIS ON:

26 (I) THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR PUBLIC SCHOOL'S WILLINGNESS AND  
27 WRITTEN PLAN TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A STUDENT SUICIDE

1 PREVENTION POLICY AND TO DESIGNATE A SUICIDE PREVENTION  
2 COORDINATOR; AND

3 (II) THE RATIO OF SCHOOL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO THE  
4 SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR PUBLIC SCHOOL'S PUPIL ENROLLMENT.

5 (5) (a) THERE IS ESTABLISHED IN THE STATE TREASURY THE  
6 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS FUND. THE  
7 FUND CONSISTS OF MONEY TRANSFERRED OR APPROPRIATED TO IT AND  
8 ANY OTHER MONEY THAT MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE GENERAL  
9 ASSEMBLY. THE MONEY IN THE FUND IS CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED TO  
10 THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
11 IMPLEMENTING THE GRANT PROGRAM. ANY MONEY NOT PROVIDED AS  
12 GRANTS MAY BE INVESTED BY THE STATE TREASURER AS PROVIDED IN  
13 SECTION 24-36-113. ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE  
14 INVESTMENT AND DEPOSIT OF MONEY IN THE FUND MUST BE CREDITED TO  
15 THE FUND. ANY AMOUNT REMAINING IN THE FUND AT THE END OF ANY  
16 FISCAL YEAR MUST REMAIN IN THE FUND AND NOT BE CREDITED OR  
17 TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR TO ANY OTHER FUND.

18 (b) NO MORE THAN THREE PERCENT OF THE MONEY ANNUALLY  
19 EXPENDED FROM THE FUND MAY BE USED FOR THE EXPENSES INCURRED BY  
20 THE DEPARTMENT IN ADMINISTERING THE GRANT PROGRAM.

21 (c) THE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS,  
22 GRANTS, AND DONATIONS FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOURCES TO  
23 IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION; EXCEPT THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT  
24 ACCEPT A GIFT, GRANT, OR DONATION THAT IS SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS  
25 THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION OR ANY  
26 OTHER LAW OF THE STATE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSFER ALL  
27 PRIVATE AND PUBLIC MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, AND

1 DONATIONS TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE SAME TO  
2 THE FUND.

3 (d) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION REQUIRES THE DEPARTMENT TO  
4 SOLICIT MONEY FOR THE PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING THE GRANT  
5 PROGRAM.

6 (6) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2018, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
7 CREATE A PAGE ON ITS WEBSITE TO POST AVAILABLE EVIDENCE-BASED  
8 BEST PRACTICES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS AND OTHER  
9 PROFESSIONALS ENGAGED IN STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION. THE  
10 DEPARTMENT SHALL SOLICIT EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES AND  
11 OTHER RESOURCES FROM THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER AND  
12 FROM THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION.

13 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-33.5-1803,  
14 **amend** (3)(l) and (3)(m); and **add** (3)(n) as follows:

15 **24-33.5-1803. School safety resource center - created - duties**  
16 **- repeal.** (3) The center has the following duties:

17 (l) To provide materials and training as described in section  
18 24-33.5-1809 to personnel in school districts and charter schools, parents,  
19 and students regarding the awareness and prevention of child sexual  
20 abuse and assault; ~~and~~

21 (m) By June 1, 2018, to make available a model program that  
22 conforms with section 22-1-128, regarding the risks and consequences of  
23 sexting for school districts to use, which curriculum must include  
24 information informing students of the provisions of section 18-7-109,  
25 including that, if a student receives a sexually explicit image in violation  
26 of section 18-7-109, the student can avoid adjudication as a juvenile  
27 delinquent by taking reasonable steps to either destroy or delete or report

1 the initial viewing of the image within seventy-two hours after receiving  
2 the image; AND

3 (n) (I) TO CONSULT WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SCHOOLS, CHARTER  
4 SCHOOLS, AND INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS CONCERNING  
5 EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES FOR A TIERED APPROACH TO SUICIDE  
6 PREVENTION THROUGH ENHANCING LIFE SKILLS IN STUDENTS AND TO  
7 WORK WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SCHOOLS, CHARTER SCHOOLS, AND  
8 INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP ORGANIZATION-SPECIFIC  
9 STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICIES; AND

10 (II) TO CONSULT WITH THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE  
11 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT CONCERNING ITS  
12 ADMINISTRATION OF THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM  
13 FOR SCHOOLS, CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-113.

14 **SECTION 8. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
15 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
16 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.