

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 382

2 INTRODUCED BY D. LENZ

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT BROADENING THE REQUIREMENTS OF YOUTH SUICIDE
5 AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TO INCLUDE MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS; AMENDING SECTION
6 20-7-1310, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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10 **Section 1.** Section 20-7-1310, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"20-7-1310. ~~Youth suicide~~ Mental health awareness and suicide prevention training.** (1) This
12 section may be cited as the "~~Suicide~~ Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention Training Act".

13 (2) The office of public instruction shall provide guidance and technical assistance to Montana schools
14 on ~~youth suicide~~ mental health awareness and suicide prevention training materials. All training materials offered
15 must be approved by the office of public instruction, meet the standards for professional development in the state,
16 and be periodically reviewed by a qualified person or committee for consistency with generally accepted principles
17 of ~~youth suicide~~ mental health awareness and suicide prevention training.

18 (3) The legislature recommends that ~~youth suicide~~ mental health awareness and suicide prevention
19 training be made available annually to each employee of a school district and to staff of the office of public
20 instruction who work directly with any students enrolled in Montana public schools. The training must be provided
21 at no cost to the employee. The training may be offered through any method of training identified in subsection
22 (4).

23 (4) The legislature recommends that employees under subsection (3) take at least ~~2~~ 4 hours of ~~youth~~
24 ~~suicide~~ mental health awareness and suicide prevention training every 5 years. Appropriate methods for delivery
25 of the training include:

- 26 (a) in-person attendance at a live training;
- 27 (b) videoconference;
- 28 (c) an individual program of study of designated materials;
- 29 (d) self-review modules available online; and
- 30 (e) any other method chosen by the local school board that is consistent with professional development

1 standards."

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2017.

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