

**Representative Brian S. King** proposes the following substitute bill:

**YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AMENDMENTS**

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Brian S. King**

Senate Sponsor: Kathleen A. Riebe

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions related to the purposes for youth suicide prevention programs.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- amends provisions related to the purposes for youth suicide prevention programs;
- divides elements of the youth suicide prevention programs between elementary grades and secondary grades;
- requires communication between the school district or charter school and certain parents or guardians;
- requires school districts and charter schools to ensure coordination between youth suicide prevention programs and certain other prevention programs;
- repeals a separate program to consolidate funding and effort into one comprehensive suicide prevention program; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**



None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53G-9-702**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 293, 324, and 447

REPEALS:

**53F-5-206**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 414 and renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 2

---

---

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53G-9-702** is amended to read:

**53G-9-702. Youth suicide prevention programs -- State board to develop model programs.**

(1) As used in the section:

(a) "Elementary grades" means:

(i) kindergarten through grade 5; and

(ii) if the associated middle or junior high school does not include grade 6, grade 6.

~~[(a)]~~ (b) "Intervention" means an effort to prevent a student from attempting suicide.

~~[(b)]~~ (c) "Postvention" means mental health intervention after a suicide attempt or death to prevent or contain contagion.

~~[(c)]~~ (d) "Program" means a youth suicide prevention program described in Subsection (2).

~~[(d)]~~ (e) "Public education suicide prevention coordinator" means an individual designated by the state board as described in Subsection ~~[(3)]~~ (4).

~~[(e)]~~ (f) "Secondary grades" means:

(i) ~~[means]~~ grades 7 through 12; and

(ii) if a middle or junior high school includes grade 6, ~~[includes]~~ grade 6.

~~[(f)]~~ (g) "State suicide prevention coordinator" means the state suicide prevention coordinator described in Section **62A-15-1101**.

(2) In collaboration with the public education suicide prevention coordinator, a school district or charter school~~[, in the secondary grades of the school district or charter school,]~~ shall implement a youth suicide prevention program, which, in collaboration with the training,

programs, and initiatives described in Section [53G-9-607](#), shall include programs and training to address:

~~[(a) bullying and cyberbullying, as those terms are defined in Section [53G-9-601](#);]~~

(a) for elementary grades and secondary grades:

(i) life-affirming education, including on the concepts of resiliency, healthy habits, self-care, problem solving, and conflict resolution;

(ii) methods of strengthening the family; and

(iii) methods of strengthening a youth's relationships in the school and community; and

(b) for secondary grades:

~~[(b)]~~ (i) prevention of youth suicide;

~~[(c) increased]~~ (ii) decreasing the risk of suicide among youth who are:

(A) not accepted by family for any reason, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth; or

(B) suffer from bullying;

~~[(d)]~~ (iii) youth suicide intervention; and

~~[(e)]~~ (iv) postvention for family, students, and faculty[;].

~~[(f) underage drinking of alcohol;]~~

~~[(g) methods of strengthening the family; and]~~

~~[(h) methods of strengthening a youth's relationships in the school and community.]~~

(3) Each school district and charter school shall ensure that the youth suicide prevention program described in Subsection (2):

(a) considers appropriate coordination with the following prevention programs:

(i) the prevention of bullying and cyber-bullying, as those terms are defined in Section [53G-9-601](#); and

(ii) the prevention of underage drinking of alcohol and substance abuse under Section [53G-10-406](#); and

(b) includes provisions to ensure that the school district or charter school promptly communicates with the parent or guardian of a student in accordance with Section [53G-9-604](#).

~~[(3)]~~ (4) The state board shall:

(a) designate a public education suicide prevention coordinator; and

(b) in collaboration with the Department of ~~Heath~~ Health and the state suicide

prevention coordinator, develop model programs to provide to school districts and charter schools:

(i) program training; and

(ii) resources regarding the required components described in ~~[Subsection (2)(b)]~~

Subsections (2)(a) and (b).

~~[(4)]~~ (5) The public education suicide prevention coordinator shall:

(a) oversee the youth suicide prevention programs of school districts and charter schools; and

(b) coordinate prevention and postvention programs, services, and efforts with the state suicide prevention coordinator~~[-and].~~

~~[(c) award grants in accordance with Section 53F-5-206.]~~

~~[(5)]~~ (6) A public school suicide prevention program may allow school personnel to ask a student questions related to youth suicide prevention, intervention, or postvention.

~~[(6)]~~ (7) (a) Subject to legislative appropriation, the state board may distribute money to a school district or charter school to be used to implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide in the school district or charter school.

(b) The state board shall ~~[distribute]~~ ensure that an LEA's allocation of funds from the board's distribution of money under Subsection ~~[(6)]~~ (7)(a) [so that each school that enrolls students in grade 7 or a higher grade receives an allocation of] provides an amount equal to at least \$1,000 per school.

(c) (i) A school shall use money allocated to the school under Subsection ~~[(6)]~~ (7)(b) to implement evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide.

(ii) Each school may select the evidence-based practices and programs, or emerging best practices and programs, for preventing suicide that the school implements.

(8) An LEA may not charge indirect costs to the program.

## Section 2. **Repealer.**

This bill repeals:

Section **53F-5-206, Grant awards for elementary suicide prevention programs.**