



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Audra Tidball

Am. H.B. 28

131st General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Community and Family Advancement)

Reps. Anielski, Conditt, Terhar, Patmon, Antonio, Clyde, Grossman, Blessing, Ruhl, Butler, Duffey, Phillips, Leland, Hall, LaTourette, Sheehy, Kunze, Sprague, R. Smith, Barnes, S. O'Brien, Patterson, Hackett, Brown, Gonzales, Celebrezze, Henne, DeVitis, Hill, Stinziano, Schuring, Romanchuk, Bishoff, Retherford, Dovilla, Baker, McClain, Thompson, Burkley, Rogers, Rosenberger, Dever, Hagan

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires state colleges and universities to develop and implement policies to advise students and staff on suicide prevention programs available on and off campus.
- Requires state colleges and universities to provide incoming students with information about mental health topics, including available depression and suicide prevention resources.
- Requires the Board of Regents and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to post free prevention materials and program information on their websites.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Suicide prevention policy

The bill requires state institutions of higher education to develop and implement policies to advise students and staff of suicide prevention programs that are available on and off campus. State institutions of higher education include state universities and colleges as defined under Ohio law,¹ community colleges, state community colleges, university branches, and technical colleges.²

¹ R.C. 3345.12, not in the bill.

² R.C. 3345.011, not in the bill.

Each institution's policy must be implemented not later than one year after the bill's effective date and must include all of the following:

(1) Crisis intervention access, including information on national, state, and local suicide prevention hotlines;

(2) Mental health program access, including information on the availability of local mental health clinics, student health services, and counseling services;

(3) Multimedia application access, including crisis hotline contact information, suicide warning signs, resources offered, and free applications;

(4) Outreach plans regarding educational and outreach activities on suicide prevention;

(5) Strategic plans to communicate effectively with students, staff, and parents after the loss of a person to suicide.³

The bill requires that each institution post the information concerning crisis intervention access, mental health program access, multimedia application access, and outreach plans posted on the institution's website. Additionally, the Board of Regents and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services must post applicable free prevention materials and program information on their websites. The materials and programs must be reviewed annually by the Department.⁴

Mental health information

State institutions of higher education must provide incoming students with information about mental health topics, including available depression and suicide prevention resources. The information must include available mental health services and other support services, including student-run organizations for individuals at risk of or affected by suicide.⁵

³ R.C. 3345.37(A).

⁴ R.C. 3345.37(C).

⁵ R.C. 3345.37(B).



HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced
Reported, H. Community & Family Advancement

02-03-15
03-18-15

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