A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING PREVENTING SUICIDE BY STRENGTHENING LIFE SKILLS IN STUDENTS.

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
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 finds and declares that:

3 (a) A recent report from the National Center for Health Statistics found that the suicide rate among youth between the ages of fifteen and
nineteen who live in rural counties is nearly double the suicide rate among the same age group who live in larger, more urban counties;

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

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

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

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

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

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

(V) Schools in particular should implement programs and policies that prevent abuse, bullying, violence, and social exclusion; build social connectedness and promote positive mental and emotional health; and integrate information about the responsible depiction of suicide and suicide-related behaviors into various school curricula. Schools must
ensure that students have access to mental health and counseling services and must train relevant school staff to recognize warning signs of suicidal behavior;

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

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

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

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

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

(2) The general assembly therefore declares that youth suicide prevention is a matter of statewide concern, and it is in the best interests of the children and youth of the state of Colorado to strongly encourage all school districts and charter schools to work with the office of suicide
prevention in the department of public health and environment, the school safety resource center in the department of public safety, the department of education, and other community organizations to develop and adopt comprehensive suicide prevention policies tailored for individual districts and schools, including recommended suicide prevention training programs, and to designate a staff member to serve as the student suicide prevention coordinator for a school district, school, or charter school.

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

22-32-109.1. Board of education - specific powers and duties - safe school plan - conduct and discipline code - safe school reporting requirements - school response framework - school resource officers - definitions - repeal. (2.7) Safe school plan - student suicide prevention policy and coordinator. (a) As part of its safe school plan, each school district is encouraged to develop and adopt a student suicide prevention policy and to designate a staff person to serve as the student suicide prevention coordinator for the school district. Student suicide prevention policies must work toward increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors for student suicide.

(b) Each school district is encouraged to include in its student suicide prevention policy the following tiered training approach for school personnel that emphasizes the importance of identifying students who are at risk and the need to refer such students for appropriate treatment:

(I) School health professionals must complete comprehensive suicide prevention training as part of the
ORIENTATION PROCESS;

(II) Teachers, coaches, and school resource officers must complete a suicide prevention training program at the time of hiring and every four years thereafter;

(III) All other school staff who have contact with students must complete, at a minimum, a basic training at the time of hiring that teaches them how to identify warning signs of suicide and students who are at risk of suicide and how to refer such students for appropriate treatment and assistance.

(c) A student suicide prevention policy developed and adopted pursuant to this subsection (2.7) must include life skills, social emotional learning to enhance students' capacity to deal effectively with stressful situations, and resiliency training. Mental health and suicide prevention education must be included in a school district's health education programs and, to the extent possible, integrated throughout all areas of the curricula.

(d) Each school within a school district is strongly encouraged to provide 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.

(e) Parent education about suicide prevention must be a part of a student suicide prevention policy developed and adopted pursuant to this subsection (2.7), including meetings, printed information, and online resources, as feasible.

(f) Each school within a school district may select the
TYPE OF TRAINING AND PROGRAMS THAT BEST SUIT ITS NEEDS BUT IS
ENCOURAGED TO USE CURRICULA AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MATERIALS, TRAINING, AND OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM THE
OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
AND ENVIRONMENT, CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w), THE SCHOOL
SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1803, AND THE COLORADO PARENT AND
TEACHER ASSOCIATION. THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AND THE
SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER SHALL WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH
AN INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR SCHOOL, AT THE DISTRICT'S OR
SCHOOL'S REQUEST, TO PROVIDE VARIOUS EXISTING EVIDENCE-BASED AND
EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS USE EXISTING PROGRAMS
AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT CAN HELP PROVIDE
SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.

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

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

22-30.5-121. Charter schools - student suicide prevention
policy. (1) (a) EACH CHARTER SCHOOL IS ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP AND
ADOPT A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY AND TO DESIGNATE A
STAFF PERSON TO SERVE AS THE STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION
COORDINATOR FOR THE CHARTER SCHOOL. STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION
POLICIES MUST WORK TOWARD INCREASING PROTECTIVE FACTORS AND
DECREASING RISK FACTORS FOR STUDENT SUICIDE.
(b) EACH CHARTER SCHOOL IS ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE IN ITS
STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY THE FOLLOWING TIERED TRAINING
APPROACH FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL THAT EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE
OF IDENTIFYING STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK AND THE NEED TO REFER
SUCH STUDENTS FOR APPROPRIATE TREATMENT:

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

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

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

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

(d) EACH CHARTER SCHOOL IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO
PROVIDE 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.

(e) Parent education about suicide prevention must be a part of a student suicide prevention policy developed and adopted pursuant to this section, including meetings, printed information, and online resources, as feasible.

(f) Each charter school may select the type of training and programs that best suit its needs but is encouraged to use curricula and professional development materials, training, and other resources available from the Office of Suicide Prevention in the Department of Public Health and Environment, created in section 25-1.5-101 (1)(w), the School Safety Resource Center in the Department of Public Safety created in section 24-33.5-1803, and the Colorado Parent and Teacher Association. The Office of Suicide Prevention and the School Safety Resource Center shall work collaboratively with an individual charter school, at the school's request, to provide various existing evidence-based and evidence-informed programs, as well as use existing programs and organizations in the community that can help provide suicide prevention services.

(2) A charter school may apply for a grant from the Student Suicide Prevention Grant Program for Schools, created in section 25-1.5-113, for financial assistance in the implementation of this section.

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

22-30.5-529. Institute charter schools - student suicide
prevention policy. (1) (a) Each institute charter school is encouraged to develop and adopt a student suicide prevention policy and to designate a staff person to serve as the student suicide prevention coordinator for the institute charter school. Student suicide prevention policies must work toward increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors for student suicide.

(b) Each institute charter school is encouraged to include in its student suicide prevention policy the following tiered training approach for school personnel that emphasizes the importance of identifying students who are at risk and the need to refer such students for appropriate treatment:

(I) Institute charter school health professionals must complete comprehensive suicide prevention training as part of the orientation process;

(II) Teachers, coaches, and school resource officers must complete a suicide prevention training program at the time of hiring and every four years thereafter;

(III) All other institute charter school staff who have contact with students must complete, at a minimum, a basic training at the time of hiring that teaches them how to identify warning signs of suicide and students who are at risk of suicide and how to refer such students for appropriate treatment and assistance.

(c) A student suicide prevention policy developed and adopted pursuant to this section must include life skills, social emotional learning to enhance students' capacity to deal
EFFECTIVELY WITH STRESSFUL SITUATIONS, AND RESILIENCY TRAINING. 
MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION EDUCATION MUST BE 
INCLUDED IN AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL'S HEALTH EDUCATION 
PROGRAMS AND, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, BE INTEGRATED THROUGHOUT 
ALL AREAS OF THE CURRICULA. 
(d) EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED 
TO PROVIDE 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. 
(e) PARENT EDUCATION ABOUT SUICIDE PREVENTION MUST BE A 
PART OF A STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY DEVELOPED AND 
ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, INCLUDING MEETINGS, PRINTED 
INFORMATION, AND ONLINE RESOURCES, AS FEASIBLE. 
(f) EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL MAY SELECT THE TYPE OF 
TRAINING AND PROGRAMS THAT BEST SUIT ITS NEEDS BUT IS ENCOURAGED 
TO USE CURRICULA AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MATERIALS, 
TRAINING, AND OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE OF 
SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND 
ENVIRONMENT, CREATED IN SECTION 25-1.5-101 (1)(w), THE SCHOOL 
SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY 
CREATED IN SECTION 24-33.5-1803, AND THE COLORADO PARENT AND 
TEACHER ASSOCIATION. THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AND THE 
SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER SHALL WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH 
AN INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL, AT THE SCHOOL'S REQUEST, 
TO PROVIDE VARIOUS EXISTING EVIDENCE-BASED AND 
EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS USE EXISTING PROGRAMS 
AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT CAN HELP PROVIDE
SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.

(2) An institute charter school may apply for a grant from the student suicide prevention grant program for schools, created in section 25-1.5-113, for financial assistance in the implementation of this section.

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

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

(w) (I) To act operate the office of suicide prevention, which is hereby established in the division of prevention services in the department, that serves as the coordinator for suicide prevention programs throughout the state, including the Colorado suicide prevention plan established in section 25-1.5-112.

(II) The department is authorized to accept gifts, grants, and donations to assist it in performing its duties as the coordinator for suicide prevention programs on behalf of the office of suicide prevention. The department shall transmit all such gifts, grants, and donations shall be transmitted to the state treasurer who shall credit the same to the suicide prevention coordination cash fund, which fund is hereby created. The fund also consists of any money appropriated or transferred to the fund by the general assembly for the purposes of implementing section 25-1.5-112. Any money remaining in the suicide prevention coordination cash fund at the end of any fiscal year shall must remain in
the fund and shall MUST not be transferred or credited to the general fund.

The general assembly shall make appropriations from the suicide prevention coordination cash fund for expenditures incurred by the department OR THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION in the performance of its duties under this paragraph (w) PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(w) and section 25-1.5-112.

(III) (A) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), as part of its THE duties as coordinator for suicide prevention programs

of the OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION, on or before each November 1, the department OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION shall submit to the chairs of the senate health and human services committee and the house of representatives health, insurance, and environment committee, or their successor committees, and to the members of the joint budget committee, a report listing all suicide prevention programs in the state and describing the effectiveness of the department OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION IN acting as the coordinator for suicide prevention programs. For the report submitted in 2013 and each year thereafter, the department OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION shall include any findings and recommendations it has to improve suicide prevention in the state.

(IV) In its role as coordinator for suicide prevention programs,

The department AND THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION may collaborate with each facility licensed or certified pursuant to section 25-1.5-103 in order to coordinate suicide prevention services, including relevant training and other services as part of the Colorado suicide prevention plan established in section 25-1.5-112. When a facility treats a person who has attempted suicide or exhibits a suicidal gesture, the facility may provide oral and written information or educational materials to the person or, in
the case of a minor, to parents, relatives, or other responsible persons to
whom the minor will be released, prior to the person's release, regarding
warning signs of depression, risk factors of suicide, methods of
preventing suicide, available suicide prevention resources, and any other
information concerning suicide awareness and prevention. The
DEPARTMENT AND THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION MAY WORK WITH
FAMILIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND SCHOOLS TO HELP YOUTH WHO HAVE
BEEN TREATED FOR AN ATTEMPTED SUICIDE OR WHO HAVE EXHIBITED A
SUICIDAL GESTURE TO TRANSITION BACK INTO SCHOOL. The department
AND THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION may work with facilities and the
Colorado suicide prevention plan to determine whether and where gaps
exist in suicide prevention programs and services, including gaps that
may be present in:

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

25-1.5-113. Student suicide prevention grant program for
schools - definitions - creation - process - rules - reporting
requirements - fund - advisory board. (1) As used in this section,
unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) "Advisory board" means the advisory board created
pursuant to subsection (3) of this section.

(b) "Department" means the department of public health
and environment created and existing pursuant to section
25-1-102.

(c) "Fund" means the student suicide prevention grant
program for schools fund created in subsection (5) of this
section.
(d) "Grant Program" means the Student Suicide Prevention Grant Program for schools created in subsection (2) of this section.

(e) "Office of Suicide Prevention" means the Office of Suicide Prevention in the Department, established pursuant to section 25-1.5-101 (1)(w).

(f) "Public school" means a school of a school district; a district charter school; an institute charter school; or a board of cooperative services, as defined in section 22-5-103.

(g) "School district" means any public school district existing pursuant to law.

(h) "School Safety Resource Center" means the School Safety Resource Center in the Department of Public Safety, established pursuant to section 24-33.5-1803.

(i) "State Board" means the State Board of Health created pursuant to section 25-1-103.

(2) (a) There is created in the Department the Student Suicide Prevention Grant Program for schools. The purpose of the Grant Program is to provide financial assistance to school districts and public schools in the development and implementation of student suicide prevention policies or training programs pursuant to section 22-32-109.1 (2.7), 22-30.5-121, or 22-30.5-529. The Grant Program may authorize up to twenty-five grants per year, ranging from a minimum of five thousand dollars to a maximum of ten thousand dollars. On and after January 1, 2019, a school district or a public school may apply for a grant to fund efforts to reduce the Student Suicide Rate in
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL THROUGH THE ADOPTION OF A
STUDENT SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY.

(b) The department shall administer the grant program,
in consultation with the advisory board, the office of suicide
prevention, and the school safety resource center.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
the department is not required to implement the provisions of
this section until sufficient money has been transferred or
appropriated to the fund.

(d) The department, in collaboration with the advisory
board, shall accept and review applications for grants from
school districts and public schools and may award grants in
accordance with the criteria and guidelines established by rule
of the state board pursuant to subsection (4) of this section and
based on recommendations of the advisory board.

(e) Each application, at a minimum, must describe how the
applicant school district or public school will use a grant
award to reduce suicides in the school district or public school.
A grant recipient shall use grant money to supplement and not
supplant any money currently being used by the grant recipient
to reduce suicides in the school district or public school.

(f) Each grant recipient shall submit a written report to
the department not later than six months after the expiration
of the term of its grant. The report must include a summary of
activities made possible by the grant money.

(g) Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), on or
before a date specified by rule of the state board pursuant to
SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT
ANNUALLY TO THE STATE BOARD AND TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR
ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING
THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IN THE PRECEDING YEAR:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY BOARD MUST NOT EXCEED TEN
MEMBERS AND MUST INCLUDE REPRESENTATION FROM THE FOLLOWING
ENTITIES, AS APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE
PREVENTION NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2018:

(I) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION;
(II) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;
(III) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER;
(IV) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COLORADO YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL;
(V) REPRESENTATIVES FROM EDUCATION-ORIENTED AND SUICIDE PREVENTION NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY; AND
(VI) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS.

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

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

(a) APPLICATION PROCEDURES BY WHICH SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION;
(b) CRITERIA FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND THE ADVISORY BOARD TO UTILIZE IN SELECTING SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO RECEIVE GRANTS AND IN DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF GRANT MONEY TO BE AWARDED TO EACH GRANT RECIPIENT. THE CRITERIA, AT A MINIMUM, MUST INCLUDE AN EMPHASIS ON:

(I) THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR PUBLIC SCHOOL'S WILLINGNESS AND WRITTEN PLAN TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A STUDENT SUICIDE
PREVENTION POLICY AND TO DESIGNATE A SUICIDE PREVENTION
COORDINATOR; AND

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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