

2SSB 5327 - H AMD TO CYF COMM AMD (H-1337.1/21) **681**
By Representative Dent

1 Beginning on page 1, after line 2, strike all material through
2 "2023." on page 3, line 16 and insert the following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
4 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
5 otherwise.

6 (1) "Department" means the department of health.

7 (2) (a) "Service provider" means a person or entity participating
8 in the YES tip line pilot program and YES tip line established in
9 section 2 of this act by:

10 (i) Providing direct assistance to persons referred through the
11 YES tip line's operations; and

12 (ii) Implementing a coordinated response to the YES tip line
13 referral according to the protocols and procedures of the YES tip
14 line pilot program.

15 (b) Service providers include, but are not limited to, behavioral
16 health providers, community mental health entities, schools, and
17 postsecondary institutions.

18 (3) "Vendor" means the entity contracted to operate the YES tip
19 line under section 3 of this act.

20 (4) "Warm transfer" means the timely referral by the YES tip line
21 staff to the service provider in response to a tip. A warm transfer
22 includes, but is not limited to, a direct and successful connection
23 between the person supplying the tip and the service provider, and,
24 when appropriate, an alert to emergency services or other responding
25 entities as required by the YES tip line response procedures.

26 (5) "YES tip line" means the "youth empowered to speak-up"
27 resource designed to accept information concerning prevention of
28 youth suicide as part of the YES tip line pilot program established
29 in section 2 of this act and operated by the YES tip line vendor.

30 (6) "Youth" means any person or persons less than 20 years old.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts
32 appropriated for this specific purpose, the department shall

1 establish a pilot program for receiving and responding to tips from
2 the public regarding youth suicide prevention, called the YES tip
3 line pilot program. The focus of the YES tip line pilot program is to
4 create an easy, youth-centered way to access crisis services. The
5 department shall establish the pilot program within the guidelines of
6 this chapter.

7 (2) (a) The YES tip line pilot program must include a YES tip line
8 for receiving reports and information related to youth suicide, and
9 work to prevent such suicide. Any person contacting the YES tip line,
10 whether for themselves or for another person, must receive timely
11 assistance and not be turned away.

12 (b) The YES tip line shall be operated by a vendor selected by
13 the department through the contracting process described in section 3
14 of this act.

15 (3) (a) During the development and implementation of the YES tip
16 line pilot program the department shall convene an advisory committee
17 consisting of representatives from the department, the Washington
18 state patrol, the statewide organization representing school
19 principals, the health care authority, the office of the
20 superintendent of public instruction, the Washington student
21 achievement council, the Washington association of educational
22 service districts, and other participants the department appoints.

23 (b) Youth perspectives must be included and consulted in creating
24 marketing campaigns and materials required for the YES tip line pilot
25 program. The insights of youth representing marginalized and minority
26 communities must be prioritized for their invaluable insight.

27 (c) The advisory committee established under this subsection
28 shall review the same elements related to statewide implementation of
29 a YES tip line program as the youth suicide prevention reporting tool
30 advisory group is required to review under section 6 of this act and
31 submit a preliminary report by September 1, 2022, and a final report
32 by June 30, 2023, to the youth suicide prevention reporting tool
33 advisory group of the children and youth behavioral health work group
34 that details this review and includes recommendations regarding
35 statewide implementation of a youth suicide prevention reporting tool
36 based on that review.

37 (4) The department shall oversee and administer the YES tip line
38 pilot program's operations.

39 (5) The department is authorized to apply for, receive, and
40 administer grants, gifts, and donations from public and private

1 entities for the purpose and intent of this chapter. If a gift or
2 donation is received in the form of property, the department may
3 liquidate and convert the property into money. Pursuant to RCW
4 43.88.195, the department may deposit such moneys in a local account
5 if such an account will facilitate the efficiency of the pilot
6 program.

7 (6) The department shall develop and implement processes for:

8 (a) Assessing tips based on the level of severity, urgency, and
9 assistance needed using best triage practices including the YES tip
10 line:

11 (i) Risk assessment for referral of persons contacting the YES
12 tip line to service providers;

13 (ii) Threat assessment that identifies circumstances requiring
14 the YES tip line to alert law enforcement, mental health services, or
15 other first responders immediately when immediate emergency response
16 to a tip is warranted; and

17 (iii) Referral and follow-up on tips to schools or postsecondary
18 institution teams, local crisis services, law enforcement, and other
19 entities;

20 (b) YES tip line information data retention and reporting
21 requirements; and

22 (c) Systematic review, analysis, and reporting by the YES tip
23 line pilot program of YES tip line data including, but not limited
24 to, reporting pilot program utilization and evaluating whether the
25 YES tip line is being implemented equitably.

26 (7) The department shall ensure that YES tip line pilot program
27 personnel are trained in the following areas:

28 (a) Crisis management, including recognizing mental illness and
29 emotional disturbance;

30 (b) The resources that are available in the community for
31 providing mental health treatment and other human services; and

32 (c) Other matters determined by the department to be relevant to
33 the administration and operation of the pilot program.

34 (8) The YES tip line pilot program must develop and maintain a
35 reference and best practices tool kit for law enforcement and mental
36 health officials that:

37 (a) Identifies community mental health resources, services, and
38 contacts; and

39 (b) Provides the department's best practice recommendations for
40 case investigations involving prevention of youth suicide to:

1 (i) Assist in identifying whether mental illness or emotional
2 disturbance may be involved; and

3 (ii) Provide strategies for investigators to use in aiding
4 subjects and their parents or guardians.

5 (9) The YES tip line pilot program must promote and market the
6 pilot program and YES tip line to youth, families, community members,
7 schools, and others within the pilot program service area to build
8 awareness of the pilot program's resources and the YES tip line. The
9 department may promote the YES tip line pilot program and YES tip
10 line and provide promotional materials and information on the
11 department's website.

12 (10) The department shall select up to 20 school districts that
13 volunteer to participate in an area east of the crest of the Cascade
14 mountain range that will be part of the YES tip line pilot program
15 service area. The YES tip line pilot program shall begin by January
16 3, 2022, and operate until the expiration of this section.

17 (11) Except as provided in subsection (9) of this section,
18 marketing materials must not refer to or use the image or voice of an
19 elected official, appointed state employee, state employee governed
20 by a senior executive service limited term employment agreement, or
21 candidate for elective office.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1)(a) The department shall develop and
23 issue a request for proposals to identify and select a qualified
24 vendor to operate the YES tip line. The department has sole authority
25 over the contracting process and the contract award decision. The
26 department may collaborate with another state that has implemented a
27 similar youth tip line. This subsection does not prohibit the
28 Washington state patrol or other state or local jurisdiction from
29 submitting a proposal to operate the YES tip line.

30 (b) Any vendor contracting to perform work necessary to implement
31 or sustain the YES tip line pilot program must comply with RCW
32 41.06.142.

33 (2)(a) The YES tip line contract must require the vendor to be
34 bound by the requirements of this chapter, including the
35 confidentiality provisions in section 4 of this act.

36 (b) The state of Washington owns the data and information
37 produced from the YES tip line. The vendor must comply with the
38 state's data retention, use, and security requirements throughout the

1 contract and for such additional postcontracting use as directed by
2 the state.

3 (c) (i) The YES tip line must directly integrate service providers
4 into its operations so that YES tip line staff may provide a warm
5 transfer of a caller to a service provider to assist them.

6 (ii) The YES tip line operator must collaborate with school
7 districts and postsecondary education sectors to determine how to
8 implement the YES tip line and how schools and institutions will
9 respond when tips are referred. Teams at each school and
10 postsecondary institutions must be identified and trained by the YES
11 tip line vendor to respond when they receive a YES tip line referral.

12 (d) The YES tip line must use as many methods of communication
13 and information formats as possible including, but not limited to,
14 toll-free telephone or other voice calling, electronic mail, mobile
15 applications, text messaging, postal mail, photo and video imaging,
16 and information forwarded through a website as determined by the
17 department.

18 (e) The YES tip line must be staffed with sufficient personnel
19 and technical capacity to meet the needs for timely assistance to
20 persons who contact the YES tip line for assistance 24 hours a day,
21 365 days a year.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The identity of the person submitting
23 a tip is confidential subject to the exceptions provided in this
24 chapter. Anonymous tips will be accepted if the person submitting the
25 tip refuses to identify themselves. The YES tip line pilot program
26 must establish procedures authorizing a breach of confidentiality to
27 trace the tip so that first responders have necessary information
28 when there is a specific emergency threat to life.

29 (2) Any report or information submitted to the YES tip line is
30 confidential, and must not be released except as otherwise provided
31 in this chapter.

32 (3) The personally identifying information of any person
33 submitting a tip and the individual or individuals who are the
34 subject of a tip are not subject to disclosure under the public
35 records act, chapter 42.56 RCW.

36 (4) Any information submitted to the YES tip line and forwarded
37 by the vendor to a law enforcement official or to a mental health
38 official is confidential, and must not be released except as

1 otherwise provided in this chapter. The information is not subject to
2 disclosure under the public records act, chapter 42.56 RCW.

3 (5) A person who intentionally discloses information to another
4 person in violation of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor
5 punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or a fine of not
6 more than \$500, or both.

7 (6) If a risk assessment of a tip to the YES tip line does not
8 result in a referral to a service provider, or if a law enforcement
9 investigation concludes that no action is warranted to respond to the
10 tip, the name of the tip's subject must be expunged from the records
11 of the entities involved in the YES tip line contact, except as
12 otherwise provided by law.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Information regarding a YES tip line
14 contact, including any personally identifying information, may be
15 disclosed as follows:

16 (1) By either of the following as necessary for purposes of this
17 chapter and as necessary to address reports and information received
18 under this chapter:

19 (a) The vendor and its employees performing their duties
20 according to the procedures developed by the YES tip line pilot
21 program; or

22 (b) The department, law enforcement agencies, the health care
23 authority, and community mental health service programs, and their
24 employees' performing their authorized duties. However, this
25 subsection (1)(b) does not allow the disclosure of information that
26 would identify the person who submitted the report or information to
27 the YES tip line; or

28 (2) With the permission of the subject of the information or, if
29 the subject is a minor, with the permission of the minor and their
30 parent or guardian.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 (1)(a) The children and youth behavioral health work group
34 established under RCW 74.09.4951 shall convene a youth suicide
35 prevention reporting tool advisory group to review the youth safety
36 and well-being statewide reporting tool work group report completed
37 by the attorney general in 2020.

1 (b) The youth suicide prevention reporting tool advisory group
2 shall first determine how a statewide youth suicide prevention
3 reporting tool would increase youth access to services. If the youth
4 suicide prevention reporting tool advisory group finds that creation
5 of a new youth suicide prevention reporting tool is needed to
6 increase youth access to services, the advisory group shall consider
7 the following elements related to implementing the reporting tool:

8 (i) To what extent the youth suicide prevention reporting tool
9 would provide added support or duplicative efforts alongside other
10 reporting mechanisms, such as the:

11 (A) Universal telephone number within the United States
12 designated for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and
13 mental health crisis hotline system operating through the national
14 suicide prevention lifeline, also known as the 988 crisis hotline;

15 (B) National youth safety related hotlines;

16 (C) State child abuse reporting hotlines; and

17 (D) Other national, state, or local youth suicide prevention
18 related hotlines;

19 (ii) If this youth suicide prevention reporting tool is
20 implemented, which state agency should be responsible for
21 implementation and whether that agency should allow for a private
22 contractor to manage the reporting tool;

23 (iii) How this reporting tool will be integrated with existing
24 services to prevent youth suicide;

25 (iv) What resources are needed to implement the reporting tool
26 and the cost-benefit of spending resources on a reporting tool or
27 expanding the services available to prevent youth suicide;

28 (v) How the reporting tool could focus on preventing youth
29 suicide and limit a criminal justice response for the youth who are
30 subjects of the reporting tool;

31 (vi) The appropriate criteria used by the reporting tool to
32 determine referral of persons to service providers;

33 (vii) The threat assessment criteria used by the reporting tool
34 to determine immediate referral to law enforcement, child protective
35 services, behavioral health professionals, or other first responders;

36 (viii) The appropriate communication with education institutions,
37 local crisis services, law enforcement, and other entities;

38 (ix) Expected services needed, existing capacity, and who would
39 provide and pay for these services;

1 (x) The appropriate warm transfer protocols between the reporting
2 tool and service providers;

3 (xi) Appropriate confidentiality protections for the person
4 making the report and the subject of the report, including
5 protections related to the public records act, data retention
6 schedules, and data management;

7 (xii) State liability concerns related to creation and operation
8 of a reporting tool and the response or lack of a response provided
9 by the reporting tool;

10 (xiii) Integration with K-12 and higher education institutions;

11 (xiv) Evaluation mechanisms to review appropriateness of law
12 enforcement responses, behavioral health services, education
13 responses, and other responses;

14 (xv) The training needed for individuals operating the reporting
15 tool and the service providers and first responders contacted by the
16 reporting tool;

17 (xvi) Marketing and outreach needed to inform the public about
18 the reporting tool; and

19 (xvii) Input provided by the YES tip line pilot program advisory
20 committee required under section 2 of this act.

21 (c) Staff support for the youth suicide prevention reporting tool
22 advisory group, including administration of work group meetings and
23 preparation of full work group recommendations and reports required
24 under this section, must be provided by the authority.

25 (d) The youth suicide prevention reporting tool advisory group
26 shall choose a chair who is a member of the legislature or from among
27 the members of the children and youth behavioral health work group
28 established under RCW 74.09.4951.

29 (2) By November 1, 2023, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,
30 the youth suicide prevention reporting tool advisory group to the
31 children and youth behavioral health work group established under RCW
32 74.09.4951 shall submit a report to the governor and the appropriate
33 committees of the legislature that details the review required under
34 subsection (1) of this section and includes recommendations regarding
35 a youth suicide prevention reporting tool based on that review.

36 (3) This section expires July 1, 2024.

37 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This chapter expires July 1, 2024.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 5 and 7 of this act
2 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW."

3 Correct the title.

EFFECT: The amendment makes the following changes to the underlying striking amendment:

(1) Restores creation of a youth reporting tool but makes this a one-and-a-half-year pilot program in as many as 20 school districts that volunteer to participate in an area in Eastern Washington and limits this tool to the prevention of youth suicide for individuals under 20 years of age.

(2) Requires the YES tip line pilot program to begin by January 3, 2022, and operate until July 1, 2024.

(3) Requires the Department of Health (instead of the Attorney General's Office) to establish the YES tip line pilot program and select a vendor to operate the tip line.

(4) Requires the YES tip line advisory committee to review the same elements that the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group (CYBHWG) advisory group will review related to statewide implementation of a youth safety and well-being reporting tool and requires that advisory committee to provide a report to the CYBHWG advisory group by June 30, 2023, and the CYBHWG advisory group must review this input before providing it's report to the Governor and Legislature on November 1, 2023.

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