
SENATE BILL 6431

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove, Kohl-Welles, Lias, Kline, Rolfes, Parlette, Frockt, Pedersen, and Conway

Read first time 01/24/14. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to assistance for schools in implementing youth
2 suicide prevention activities; amending RCW 28A.300.288; creating a new
3 section; and making an appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that according to the
6 department of health, suicide is the second leading cause of death for
7 Washington youth between the ages of ten and twenty-four. Suicide
8 rates among Washington's youth remain higher than the national average.
9 An increasing body of research shows an association between adverse
10 childhood experiences such as trauma, violence, or abuse, and decreased
11 student learning and achievement. Underserved youth populations in
12 Washington who are not receiving access to state services continue to
13 remain at risk for suicide.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.300.288 and 2011 c 185 s 3 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
17 work with state agency and community partners to (~~develop pilot~~

1 ~~projects to~~) assist schools in implementing youth suicide prevention
2 activities, which may include the following:

3 (a) Training for school employees, parents, community members, and
4 students in recognizing and responding to the signs of suicide;

5 (b) Partnering with local coalitions of community members
6 interested in preventing youth suicide; and

7 (c) Responding to communities determined to be in crisis after a
8 suicide or attempted suicide to prevent further instances of suicide.

9 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction, working
10 with state and community partners, shall prioritize funding
11 appropriated for subsection (1) of this section to the following
12 schools and communities:

13 (a) Schools identified by the department of health as situated in
14 a high-risk area or in a community with high-risk populations;

15 (b) Tribal communities; and

16 (c) Communities with a high percentage of students who speak
17 English as a second language.

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The sum of four hundred thirty thousand
19 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
20 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, from the general fund to the
21 office of the superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of
22 this act.

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