

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 1, 2013

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
4 FOR ENGROSSED  
5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1623

By: Floyd, Sherrer and McDaniel  
(Jeannie) of the House

6 and

7 McAffrey of the Senate

8  
9 An Act relating to schools; permitting boards of  
10 education to adopt a suicide and student drug abuse  
11 policy; requiring course outline to be made available  
12 to the public through the school district website;  
13 directing the Department of Mental Health and  
14 Substance Abuse Services to develop and make  
15 available to school districts suicide prevention and  
16 awareness training; providing requirements for  
17 certain training programs; providing immunity for  
18 certain acts by school employees; limiting causes of  
19 action; permitting school districts to enter into  
20 certain agreements; providing for codification; and  
21 declaring an emergency.

22 ~~BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:~~

23 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
24 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-100.7 of Title 70, unless  
there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The board of education of each school district in this state  
may adopt a policy regarding suicide awareness and training and the  
reporting of student drug abuse.

1 B. The board of education of each school district in this state  
2 may provide schoolwide training to all students in grades nine  
3 through twelve and staff addressing suicide awareness and  
4 prevention. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
5 Services shall develop and make available to school districts  
6 training which addresses suicide awareness and prevention, without  
7 cost to the school districts. The course outline for the training  
8 shall be made available to the public online through the school  
9 district website. Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, every  
10 school district may:

11 1. Provide a suicide prevention training program which includes  
12 as a core element research-based approaches and that is developed by  
13 the school district; or

14 2. Provide the training program provided by the Department of  
15 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; or

16 3. Provide a suicide prevention training program that is  
17 selected by the school district from a list maintained by the  
18 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to students  
19 and school district staff that addresses suicide awareness and  
20 prevention. The training program may be combined with any other  
21 training provided by the school district addressing bullying  
22 prevention.

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1 C. Teachers, counselors, principals, administrators and other  
2 school personnel shall be immune from employment discipline and any  
3 civil liability for:

4 1. Calling the 911 emergency telephone number, law enforcement  
5 or the Department of Human Services if they believe a student poses  
6 a threat to themselves or others or if a student has committed or  
7 been the victim of a violent act or threat of a violent act;

8 2. Providing counseling, referral, emergency medical care or  
9 other assistance offered in good faith to a student or other youth;  
10 and

11 3. Communicating information in good faith concerning drug or  
12 alcohol abuse or a potential safety threat by or to any student to  
13 the parents of the student, law enforcement officers or health care  
14 providers.

15 D. No person shall have a cause of action for any loss or  
16 damage caused by any act or omission resulting from the  
17 implementation of this section or resulting from any training, or  
18 lack thereof, required by this section, unless the loss or damage  
19 was caused by willful or wanton misconduct.

20 E. The training required pursuant to this section, or the lack  
21 thereof, shall not be construed to impose any specific duty of care.

22 F. School districts may enter into agreements with designated  
23 Youth Services Agencies for the provision of intervention and  
24 prevention services.

1 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
2 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
6 April 1, 2013 - DO PASS AS AMENDED  
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