

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

SENATE BILL 21

By: Floyd

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 1, Chapter 333, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 24-100.7), which relates to suicide awareness and drug abuse policies; requiring rather than allowing the school district boards of education to adopt certain policy; requiring rather than allowing boards of education to provide certain training; requiring school districts to provide certain training and curriculum beginning in certain school year; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 333, O.S.L. 2014 (70 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 24-100.7), is amended to read as follows:

Section 24-100.7. A. The board of education of each school district in this state ~~may~~ shall adopt a policy regarding suicide awareness and training and the reporting of student drug abuse.

B. The board of education of each school district in this state ~~may~~ shall provide schoolwide training to all students in grades seven through twelve and staff addressing suicide awareness and

1 prevention. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
2 Services shall develop and make available to school districts
3 curriculum which addresses suicide awareness and prevention, without
4 cost to the school districts. The course outline for the curriculum
5 shall be made available to the public online through the school
6 district website. Beginning with the ~~2014-2015~~ 2021-2022 school
7 year, every school district ~~may~~ shall:

8 1. Provide a suicide prevention training program which includes
9 as a core element research-based approaches and that is developed by
10 the school district;

11 2. Provide the curriculum made available by the Department of
12 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; or

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

20 C. Teachers, counselors, principals, administrators and other
21 school personnel shall be immune from employment discipline and any
22 civil liability for:

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

3 2. Providing referral, emergency medical care or other
4 assistance offered in good faith to a student or other youth; or

5 3. Communicating information in good faith concerning drug or
6 alcohol abuse or a potential safety threat by or to any student to
7 the parents or legal guardians of the student, law enforcement
8 officers or health care providers.

9 D. No person shall have a cause of action for any loss or
10 damage caused by any act or omission resulting from the
11 implementation of this section or resulting from any training, or
12 lack thereof, required by this section, unless the loss or damage
13 was caused by willful or wanton misconduct.

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

16 F. School districts may enter into agreements with designated
17 Youth Services Agencies for the provision of intervention and
18 prevention services.

19 G. Teachers, counselors, principals, administrators, or other
20 school personnel, upon determining that a student is at risk of
21 attempting suicide, shall notify the parents or legal guardians of
22 the student immediately upon determining that such risk exists.

23 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.
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1 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
2 of the public peace, health or 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.
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