

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 175

By: Floyd of the Senate

and

McEntire of the House

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9 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2021,
10 Section 24-100.7, which relates to suicide awareness
11 and drug abuse policies; naming act Evan's Law;
12 providing short title; directing certain training to
13 be provided at minimum frequency; updating statutory
14 language; providing an effective date; and declaring
15 an emergency.

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

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 24-100.7, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 24-100.7. A. This act shall be known and may be cited
20 as "Evan's Law".

21 B. The board of education of each school district in this state
22 shall adopt a policy regarding suicide awareness and training,
23 requiring staff training, and the reporting of student drug abuse.

24 ~~B.~~ C. The board of education of each school district in this
state shall provide district-wide training to all staff on at least

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

9 1. Provide a suicide prevention training program which includes
10 as a core element evidence-based approaches;

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 school
16 district staff that addresses suicide awareness and prevention. The
17 training program may be combined with any other training provided by
18 the school district addressing bullying prevention.

19 ~~C.~~ D. Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, the board of
20 education of each school district may provide training to address
21 suicide awareness and prevention to students in grades seven through
22 twelve.

1 ~~D.~~ E. Teachers, counselors, principals, administrators, and
2 other school personnel shall be immune from employment discipline
3 and any 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 referral, emergency medical care, or other
9 assistance offered in good faith to a student or other youth; or

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

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

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

22 ~~G.~~ H. The board of education of each school district may enter
23 into agreements with designated ~~Youth Services Agencies~~ youth
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1 services agencies for the provision of intervention and prevention
2 services.

3 ~~H.~~ I. Teachers, counselors, principals, administrators, or
4 other school personnel, upon determining that a student is at risk
5 of attempting suicide, shall notify the parents or legal guardians
6 of the student immediately upon determining that such risk exists.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

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

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13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 04/11/2023
14 - DO PASS.
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