

House Bill 1006

By: Representatives Lim of the 98th, Mainor of the 56th, Jackson of the 128th, Dempsey of the 13th, Erwin of the 32nd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-779.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 suicide prevention and awareness training in elementary and secondary education, so as to
3 require local school systems or public schools issuing identification cards to include certain
4 information regarding suicide prevention resources; to provide for related matters; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 20-2-779.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to suicide
9 prevention and awareness training, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

10 "(a)(1) The Department of Education shall adopt rules to require that all certificated
11 public school personnel receive annual training in suicide awareness and prevention.

12 This training shall be provided within the framework of existing in-service training
13 programs offered by the Department of Education or as part of required professional
14 development offered by a local school system.

15 (2) The Department of Education shall, in consultation with the Department of
16 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the Suicide Prevention Program

17 established pursuant to Code Section 37-1-27, and suicide prevention experts, develop
18 a list of approved training materials to fulfill the requirements of this subsection which
19 may include training materials currently being used by a local school system if such
20 training materials meet any criteria established by the department.

21 (3) Approved materials shall include training on how to identify appropriate mental
22 health services, both within the school and also within the larger community, and when
23 and how to refer youth and their families to those services.

24 (4) Approved materials may include programs that can be completed through self-review
25 of suitable suicide prevention materials.

26 (5)(A) Each local school system shall adopt a policy on student suicide prevention.
27 Such policies shall be developed in consultation with school and community
28 stakeholders, school employed mental health professionals, and suicide prevention
29 experts, and shall, at a minimum, address procedures relating to suicide prevention,
30 intervention, and postvention.

31 (B) To assist local school systems in developing their own policies for student suicide
32 prevention, the Department of Education, in consultation with the Suicide Prevention
33 Program within the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities,
34 shall establish a model policy for use by local school systems in accordance with this
35 Code section.

36 (6) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, each local school system or public school
37 that issues identification cards to students in grades six through 12 shall include on such
38 cards the contact information for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and, if one exists,
39 for the local crisis prevention hotline."

40 SECTION 2.

41 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.