

1 AN ACT relating to student health and safety.

2 WHEREAS, college women ages 18 to 24 are 3 times more likely to experience
3 sexual violence with more than 50% of college sexual assaults taking place between
4 August and November; and

5 WHEREAS, according to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey
6 2010-2012 State Report, 39.1% of Kentucky women experience sexual violence in their
7 lifetimes; and

8 WHEREAS, according to the Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health
9 and Human Services' Child Maltreatment Report, child abuse and neglect are more
10 prevalent in Kentucky than any other state in the nation, with 22.2 victims per 1,000
11 Kentucky children compared to the national average of 9.1 victims per 1,000 children;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, according to the United Health Foundation's 2018 Annual Report, the
14 number of deaths in Kentucky due to intentional self-harm per 100,000 population was
15 17.1, which was above the national average of 13.9; and

16 WHEREAS, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide
17 is the 11th leading cause of death in the Commonwealth and the second leading cause of
18 death for Kentuckians ages 15-34; and

19 WHEREAS, Fayette County Coroner Gary Ginn and Jefferson County Coroner
20 Barbara Weakley-Jones each expressed alarm about the rise in youth suicide after their
21 offices investigated record-breaking rates of suicides with victims younger than 14 in
22 2018; and

23 WHEREAS, the rise of suicide rates, and youth suicide rates in particular, in
24 Kentucky evidences the desperate need to enhance the prevalence of suicide prevention
25 resources in our Commonwealth's schools and colleges; and

26 WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the dire need to provide crisis-
27 intervention information to Kentucky students to assist students coping with these threats

1 to student health and safety; and

2 WHEREAS, student identification badges issued to students are a meaningful
3 method of distributing crisis-intervention information to students in an easily accessible,
4 and regularly reinforced manner;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

6 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

7 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO
8 READ AS FOLLOWS:

9 *(1) Beginning August 1, 2020, any student identification badge issued to a student in*
10 *grades six (6) through twelve (12) by a public school shall contain the contact*
11 *information for:*

12 *(a) A national domestic violence hotline;*

13 *(b) A national sexual assault hotline; and*

14 *(c) A national suicide prevention hotline.*

15 *(2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall apply to public charter*
16 *schools as a health and safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).*

17 *(3) By July 20, 2020, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall publish*
18 *recommendations for at least one (1) national hotline accessible twenty-four (24)*
19 *hours a day, seven (7) days a week, and three hundred and sixty-five (365) days a*
20 *year that specializes in each of the hotline categories required by subsection (1) of*
21 *this section.*

22 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 164 IS CREATED TO
23 READ AS FOLLOWS:

24 *Beginning August 1, 2020, any student identification badge issued by a public or*
25 *private postsecondary education institution, vocational school, or any other institution*
26 *that offers a postsecondary degree, certificate, or licensure shall contain the contact*
27 *information for:*

- 1 *(1) A national domestic violence hotline;*
- 2 *(2) A national sexual assault hotline; and*
- 3 *(3) A national suicide prevention hotline.*