

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2354

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE FREDERICK.

6173H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

To amend chapter 173, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to student mental health at public institutions of higher education.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 173, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 173.2528 and 173.2530, to read as follows:

**173.2528. 1. Prior to January 1, 2019, the department of higher education shall promulgate rules establishing the Coordinating Board for Mental Health Issues in Higher Education (CBMHI).**

**2. The board shall consist of designated administrators and designated counseling directors from each public four-year institution of higher education in the state. Every public four-year institution of higher education in the state shall be represented on the board, with no two members to be employed by the same institution or engaged in a supervisory relationship of any kind.**

**173.2530. 1. Prior to January 1, 2020, the coordinating board for mental health issues in higher education shall promulgate rules setting forth reasonable standards and regulations for student counseling facilities at public four-year institutions of higher education in this state relating to average wait time to see a mental health professional for an initial appointment; the average number of sessions available to students, when appropriate, before an off-campus referral; prevention services; and any other factors the board determines are contributing factors leading to the prevalence of mental health problems within the academic community. After establishing such standards and regulations, the board shall develop a process for measuring an institution's compliance**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

10 with these standards and evaluating an institution's effectiveness in addressing student  
11 mental health needs using assessment criteria developed in validated studies of well-being  
12 and mental health of students.

13       2. Beginning in the 2020-21 school year, and continuing on an annual basis  
14 thereafter, each public four-year institution of higher education shall publish a report  
15 measuring compliance with the standards established in subsection 1 of this section. If an  
16 institution does not meet such standards, the institution shall include in its report a plan  
17 to meet the standards within three academic years. Additionally, the report shall include  
18 a measure of the institution's effectiveness in meeting student mental health needs  
19 including, but not limited to, a measure of the prevalence of mental health issues at the  
20 institution and the institution's ability to cope with mental health issues, using the process  
21 established in subsection 1 of this section. All reports required under this section shall be  
22 made available to the public.

23       3. For purposes of this section, the term "student counseling facility" means any  
24 entity that provides confidential mental health counseling, psychiatric services, or  
25 developmental counseling to college students that is located on campus or is associated with  
26 the institution of higher education and operates in accordance with state and federal law  
27 pertaining to mental health professionals as well as applicable professional and ethical  
28 codes.

29       4. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is  
30 created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it  
31 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,  
32 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers  
33 vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective  
34 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the  
35 grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2018,  
36 shall be invalid and void.

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