



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 190

SENATE BILL NO. 350

By Campbell, Lamar

Substituted for: House Bill No. 294

By Freeman, Davis, Clemmons, Hardaway, Lynn, Gillespie, Thompson, Tim Hicks, Williams, Helton-Haynes, Hawk, Jernigan, Powell, Love

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to suicide prevention.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

49-7-182. Save Tennessee Students Act.

(a) This section and § 49-6-1904 are known and may be cited as the "Save Tennessee Students Act."

(b)(1) If a public institution of higher education issues new student identification cards to students enrolled in the institution, then the institution shall include on the cards:

(A) The telephone number for the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline; or

(B) The social media handle, telephone number, or text number for at least one (1) additional crisis resource selected by the institution, which may include the crisis text line or, if available, a local suicide prevention hotline.

(2) This subsection (b):

(A) Applies to student identification cards purchased by a public institution of higher education on or after July 1, 2023; and

(B) Does not apply to:

(i) Student identification cards purchased by a public institution of higher education before July 1, 2023; or

(ii) Digital student identification cards.

(c) Each public institution of higher education shall post the telephone number for the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and the social media handle, telephone number, or text number for at least one (1) additional crisis resource selected by the institution, which may include the crisis text line or, if available, a local suicide prevention hotline in a conspicuous place on each campus operated by the institution.

(d) Each public institution of higher education shall create and feature a webpage on the institution's website or a mobile application that contains information dedicated solely to the mental health resources available to the institution's students.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1904, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) This section and § 49-7-182 are known and may be cited as the "Save Tennessee Students Act."

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1904, is amended by deleting the language "National Suicide Prevention Lifeline" in subdivision (b)(1) and in subsection (c) and substituting instead the language "988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-172, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) Each state institution of higher education shall develop and implement a suicide prevention plan for students, faculty, and staff. The plan must:

(1) Be developed in consultation with campus mental health professionals and suicide prevention experts;

(2) Identify procedures related to suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention; and

(3) Include a strategy to raise awareness of the mental health and crisis support services and resources, such as the contact information for suicide prevention and crisis lifelines, that are available to students, faculty, and staff.

SECTION 5. The headings in this act are for reference purposes only and do not constitute a part of the law enacted by this act. However, the Tennessee Code Commission is requested to include the headings in any compilation or publication containing this act.

SECTION 6. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 3, 2023



RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 24th day of April 2023



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR