

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3552

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require that teachers, principals, counselors, and other school leaders receive youth suicide awareness and prevention training.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2017

Mr. CLEAVER (for himself and Mr. YODER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require that teachers, principals, counselors, and other school leaders receive youth suicide awareness and prevention training.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Cady Housh and Jason
5 Flatt Teen Suicide Prevention Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Since 2010, suicide has been the second
2 leading cause of death for young people ages 10–24
3 with more than 100 young people lost each week.

4 (2) According to the 2013 Centers for Disease
5 Control and Prevention Youth Risk Behaviors Sur-
6 vey, 17 percent of high school students reported seri-
7 ously considering suicide during the last year of high
8 school and about 8 percent of high school students
9 attempt suicide during that period.

10 (3) 80 percent of students show warning signs
11 before attempting suicide.

12 **SEC. 3. SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart 2 of part F of title VIII
14 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
15 (20 U.S.C. 7901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end
16 the following:

17 **“SEC. 8549D. SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION**
18 **TRAINING.**

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Each State receiving funds
20 under this Act shall establish and implement a statewide
21 policy that school leaders, counselors, teachers, para-
22 professionals, and other staff shall complete at least one
23 hour of youth suicide awareness and prevention training
24 each school year.

1 “(b) YOUTH SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION
2 TRAINING DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘youth sui-
3 cide awareness and prevention training’ includes self or
4 in-person review of materials—

5 “(1) the State determines appropriate; and

6 “(2) that include—

7 “(A) the warning signs of, and elevate risk
8 factors for, suicide;

9 “(B) suggested responses to such warning
10 signs; and

11 “(C) further suicide awareness and preven-
12 tion resources.

13 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
14 tion shall be construed to preempt any State law to the
15 extent that such State law imposes a more extensive re-
16 quirement for youth suicide awareness and prevention
17 training in such State.”.

18 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
19 gress that—

20 (1) youth suicide awareness and prevention
21 training materials should be available to all school
22 teachers, principals, and other school leaders;

23 (2) each local educational agency should adopt
24 a policy with respect to youth suicide awareness and
25 prevention; and

1 (3) the Secretary of Education should collabo-
2 rate with the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
3 ices to publically display and distribute information
4 and resources on teen suicide prevention.

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