

Calendar No. 127

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1543

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 10, 2021

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. KING, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LUJÁN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

Reported by Mrs. MURRAY, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy.

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 “Suicide Training and
 5 Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention
 6 Act of 2021” or the “STANDUP Act of 2021”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 The Congress finds as follows:

9 (1) Since 2010, suicide has been the second-
 10 leading cause of death for young people ages 10
 11 through 24. In 2019, 6,488 young people ages 10–
 12 24 died by suicide.

13 (2) Based on the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior
 14 Survey of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
 15 vention (in this section referred to as “CDC”), 8.9
 16 percent of youth in grades 9–12 reported that they
 17 made at least one suicide attempt during the 12
 18 months before the survey.

19 (3) While there is no complete count of suicide
 20 attempts in the United States, CDC data suggests
 21 that for every reported death by suicide among peo-
 22 ple ages 10 through 24, approximately 33.5 young
 23 people visit a hospital for self-harm related injuries.

24 (4) In 2019, suicide was the tenth-leading cause
 25 of death overall in the United States, with over

1 47,500 people dying by suicide, and there were more
 2 than twice as many suicides in the United States as
 3 there were homicides.

4 (5) Youth often display warning signs and sig-
 5 nals before harming themselves or others. Research
 6 shows that 70 percent of those who die by suicide
 7 tell someone of their plans or give another warning
 8 sign.

9 (6) According to the CDC, the rates of suicide
 10 among non-Hispanic American Indians and Alaska
 11 Natives were 60 percent greater than the general
 12 population in 2019 and are the highest of any racial
 13 or ethnic group in the United States. In addition, a
 14 study of CDC data from 2001 through 2015 shows
 15 that suicide rates for Black children ages 5 through
 16 12 were roughly 2 times higher than those of simi-
 17 larly aged White children.

18 **SEC. 3. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION**
 19 **TRAINING.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Public Health Serv-
 21 ice Act is amended by inserting after section 520A of such
 22 Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–32) the following:

1 **~~“SEC. 520B. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVEN-~~**
 2 **~~TION TRAINING POLICIES.~~**

3 ~~“(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on receipt of~~
 4 ~~funds under section 520A, each State educational agency,~~
 5 ~~local educational agency, and tribal educational agency~~
 6 ~~that receives such funds, directly or through a State or~~
 7 ~~Indian Tribe, for activities to be performed in schools with~~
 8 ~~respect to grades 6 through 12, including the Project~~
 9 ~~AWARE State Education Agency Grant Program, shall—~~

10 ~~“(1) establish and implement a school-based~~
 11 ~~student suicide awareness and prevention training~~
 12 ~~policy;~~

13 ~~“(2) consult with stakeholders (including prin-~~
 14 ~~cipals, teachers, parents, local tribal officials, and~~
 15 ~~other school leaders) in the development of the pol-~~
 16 ~~icy under subsection (a)(1); and~~

17 ~~“(3) collect and report information in accord-~~
 18 ~~ance with subsection (c).~~

19 ~~“(b) SCHOOL-BASED STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS~~
 20 ~~AND PREVENTION TRAINING POLICY.—A school-based~~
 21 ~~student suicide awareness and prevention training policy~~
 22 ~~implemented pursuant to subsection (a)—~~

23 ~~“(1) shall be evidence-based;~~

24 ~~“(2) shall be culturally and linguistically appro-~~
 25 ~~priate;~~

1 “(3) shall provide evidence-based training to
2 students in grades 6 through 12, using school-based
3 mental health service providers, if such providers are
4 reasonably available, regarding—

5 “(A) suicide education and awareness, in-
6 cluding warning signs for suicide and self-harm;

7 “(B) methods that students can use to
8 seek help for themselves and others; and

9 “(C) student resources for suicide aware-
10 ness and prevention;

11 “(4) shall provide for retraining of such stu-
12 dents every school year;

13 “(5) may last for such period as the State edu-
14 cational agency, local educational agency, or tribal
15 educational agency involved determines to be appro-
16 priate;

17 “(6) may be implemented through any delivery
18 method, including in-person trainings, digital
19 trainings, or train-the-trainer models; and

20 “(7) may include discussion of comorbidities
21 and risk factors for suicidal ideation or self-harm,
22 including substance misuse, sexual, or physical
23 abuse, mental illness, and other evidence-based
24 comorbidities or risk factors.

1 “(c) ~~COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND REPORT-~~
 2 ~~ING.~~—Each State educational agency, local educational
 3 agency, and tribal educational agency that receives funds
 4 under section 520A shall, with respect to each school
 5 served by the agency, collect and report to the Secretary
 6 the following information:

7 “(1) The number of student trainings con-
 8 ducted.

9 “(2) The number of students trained,
 10 disaggregated by age and grade level.

11 “(3) The number of help-seeking reports made
 12 by students after implementation of such policy.

13 “(d) ~~EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM LISTING.~~—The
 14 Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Edu-
 15 cation, shall make publicly available the policies estab-
 16 lished by State educational agencies, local educational
 17 agencies, and tribal educational agencies pursuant to this
 18 section and the training that is available to students and
 19 teams pursuant to such policies, including identification
 20 of whether such training is available to trainees at no cost.

21 “(e) ~~IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE.~~—A State edu-
 22 cational agency, local educational agency, or tribal edu-
 23 cational agency shall establish and begin implementation
 24 of the policies required by subsection (a)(1) not later than
 25 the beginning of the third fiscal year following the date

1 of enactment of this section for which the agency receives
2 funds under section 520A.

3 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) The term ‘evidence-based’ has the meaning
5 given to such term in section 8101 of the Elemen-
6 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

7 “(2) The term ‘local education agency’ has the
8 meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the
9 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

10 “(3) The term ‘school-based mental health serv-
11 ice provider’ has the meaning given to such term in
12 section 4102(6) of the Elementary and Secondary
13 Education Act of 1965.

14 “(4) The term ‘State educational agency’ has
15 the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of
16 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
17 1965.

18 “(5) The term ‘tribal educational agency’ has
19 the meaning given to such term in section 6132 of
20 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
21 1965.

1 **“SEC. 520B-1. BEST PRACTICES FOR STUDENT SUICIDE**
2 **AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING.**

3 “The Secretary, acting through the Assistant Sec-
4 retary, in consultation with the Secretary of Education
5 and the Bureau of Indian Education, shall—

6 “(1) publish best practices for school-based stu-
7 dent suicide awareness and prevention training; pur-
8 suant to section 520B, that are based on—

9 “(A) evidence-based practices; and

10 “(B) input from relevant Federal agencies,
11 national organizations, Indian tribes and tribal
12 organizations, and related stakeholders;

13 “(2) publish guidance, based on the best prac-
14 tices under paragraph (1), to provide State edu-
15 cational agencies, local educational agencies, and
16 tribal educational agencies with information on stu-
17 dent suicide awareness and prevention best prac-
18 tices;

19 “(3) disseminate such best practices to State
20 educational agencies, local educational agencies, and
21 tribal educational agencies; and

22 “(4) provide technical assistance to State edu-
23 cational agencies, local educational agencies, and
24 tribal educational agencies.”.

1 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 The amendments made by this Act shall only apply
3 with respect to applications for assistance under section
4 520A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–
5 32) that are submitted after the date of enactment of this
6 Act.

7 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

8 *This Act may be cited as the “Suicide Training and*
9 *Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention*
10 *Act of 2021” or the “STANDUP Act of 2021”.*

11 **SEC. 2. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION**
12 **TRAINING.**

13 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Title V of the Public Health Service*
14 *Act is amended by inserting after section 520A of such Act*
15 *(42 U.S.C. 290bb–32) the following:*

16 **“SEC. 520B. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVEN-**
17 **TION TRAINING.**

18 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—*In awarding funds under section*
19 *520A, the Secretary shall give priority to applications*
20 *under such section from a State educational agency, local*
21 *educational agency, or Tribal educational agency, sub-*
22 *mitted directly or through a State or Indian Tribe, for*
23 *funding for activities in secondary schools, where such agen-*
24 *cy has implemented, or includes in such application a plan*
25 *to implement, a student suicide awareness and prevention*
26 *training policy, which may include applicable youth sui-*

1 *cide early intervention and prevention strategies imple-*
 2 *mented through section 520E—*

3 “(1) *establishing and implementing a school-*
 4 *based student suicide awareness and prevention train-*
 5 *ing policy in accordance with subsection (c);*

6 “(2) *consulting with stakeholders (including*
 7 *principals, teachers, parents, local Tribal officials,*
 8 *and other relevant experts) and, as appropriate, uti-*
 9 *lizing information, models, and other resources made*
 10 *available by the Suicide Prevention Technical Assist-*
 11 *ance Center authorized under section 520C in the de-*
 12 *velopment of the policy under paragraph (1); and*

13 “(3) *collecting and reporting information in ac-*
 14 *cordance with subsection (d).*

15 “(b) *CONSIDERATION.—In giving priority to appli-*
 16 *cants as described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall, as*
 17 *appropriate, take into consideration the incidence and*
 18 *prevalence of suicide in the applicable jurisdiction and the*
 19 *costs of establishing and implementing, as applicable, a*
 20 *school-based student suicide awareness and prevention*
 21 *training policy.*

22 “(c) *SCHOOL-BASED STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS*
 23 *AND PREVENTION TRAINING POLICY.—A school-based stu-*
 24 *dent suicide awareness and prevention training policy im-*
 25 *plemented pursuant to subsection (a)(1) shall—*

1 “(1) be evidence-based;

2 “(2) be culturally- and linguistically-appro-
3 priate;

4 “(3) provide evidence-based training to students
5 in grades 6 through 12, in coordination with school-
6 based mental health resources, as applicable, regard-
7 ing—

8 “(A) suicide prevention education and
9 awareness, including associated risk factors;

10 “(B) methods that students can use to seek
11 help; and

12 “(C) student resources for suicide awareness
13 and prevention; and

14 “(4) provide for periodic retraining of such stu-
15 dents.

16 “(d) *COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND REPORT-*
17 *ING.—Each State educational agency, local educational*
18 *agency, and Tribal educational agency that receives pri-*
19 *ority to implement a new training policy pursuant to sub-*
20 *section (a)(1) shall report to the Secretary the following ag-*
21 *gregated information, in a manner that protects personal*
22 *privacy, consistent with applicable Federal and State pri-*
23 *vacv laws:*

1 “(1) *The number of trainings conducted, includ-*
 2 *ing the number of student trainings conducted, and*
 3 *the training delivery method used.*

4 “(2) *The number of students trained,*
 5 *disaggregated by age and grade level.*

6 “(3) *The number of help-seeking reports made by*
 7 *students after implementation of such policy.*

8 “(e) *EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM AVAILABILITY.—The*
 9 *Secretary shall coordinate with the Secretary of Education*
 10 *and the Secretary of the Interior to—*

11 “(1) *make publicly available the policies estab-*
 12 *lished by State educational agencies, local educational*
 13 *agencies, and Tribal educational agencies pursuant to*
 14 *this section and the training that is available to stu-*
 15 *dents and teams pursuant to such policies, in accord-*
 16 *ance with section 543A; and*

17 “(2) *provide technical assistance and dissemi-*
 18 *nate best practices on student suicide awareness and*
 19 *prevention training policies, including through the*
 20 *Suicide Prevention Technical Assistance Center au-*
 21 *thorized under section 520C, as applicable, to State*
 22 *educational agencies, local educational agencies, and*
 23 *Tribal agencies.*

24 “(f) *IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than September 30,*
 25 *2024, the Secretary shall report to the Committee on*

1 *Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and*
 2 *the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of*
 3 *Representatives the number of recipients of funds under sec-*
 4 *tion 520A who have implemented training policies de-*
 5 *scribed in subsection (a)(1) and a summary of the informa-*
 6 *tion received under subsection (d).*

7 “(g) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

8 “(1) *The term ‘evidence-based’ has the meaning*
 9 *given such term in section 8101 of the Elementary*
 10 *and Secondary Education Act of 1965.*

11 “(2) *The term ‘local educational agency’ has the*
 12 *meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the El-*
 13 *ementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.*

14 “(3) *The term ‘State educational agency’ has the*
 15 *meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the El-*
 16 *ementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.*

17 “(4) *The term ‘Tribal educational agency’ has*
 18 *the meaning given to the term ‘tribal educational*
 19 *agency’ in section 6132 of the Elementary and Sec-*
 20 *ondary Education Act of 1965.”.*

21 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

22 *The amendment made by this Act shall apply only*
 23 *with respect to applications for assistance under section*
 24 *520A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–*

- 1 32) *that are submitted after the date of enactment of this*
- 2 *Act.*

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