

House File 2230 - Introduced

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring school employee training and protocols
2 relating to suicide prevention and trauma-informed care.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, Code 2016, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 33. *a.* For purposes of this subsection:

4 (1) "*Postvention*" means the same as defined in section
5 280.30.

6 (2) "*Trauma-informed care*" means the same as defined in
7 section 280.30.

8 *b.* By July 1, 2017, adopt rules to require school districts
9 to adopt protocols for suicide prevention and postvention
10 and trauma-informed care. The protocols shall be based on
11 nationally recognized best practices.

12 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 280.30 **Suicide prevention and**
13 **trauma-informed care training.**

14 1. For purposes of this section, unless the context
15 otherwise requires:

16 *a.* "*Postvention*" means the provision of crisis intervention,
17 support, and assistance for those affected by a suicide or
18 suicide attempt to prevent further risk of suicide.

19 *b.* "*Trauma-informed care*" means services that are based
20 on an understanding of the vulnerabilities and triggers of
21 individuals who have experienced trauma, recognize the role
22 trauma has played in the lives of those individuals, recognize
23 the presence of trauma symptoms and their onset, are supportive
24 of trauma recovery, and avoid further traumatization.

25 2. By July 1, 2017, the board of directors of a school
26 district shall integrate biennial, evidence-based training on
27 suicide prevention and postvention for all school personnel
28 who hold a license, certificate, authorization, or statement
29 of recognition issued by the board of educational examiners
30 and who have regular contact with students in grades six
31 through twelve into the school district's comprehensive
32 school improvement plan submitted pursuant to section 256.7,
33 subsection 21. The content of the training shall be based on
34 nationally recognized best practices.

35 3. By July 1, 2017, the board of directors of a school

1 district shall integrate biennial, evidence-based training
2 on trauma-informed care for all school personnel who hold
3 a license, certificate, authorization, or statement of
4 recognition issued by the board of educational examiners
5 and who have regular contact with students in kindergarten
6 through grade twelve into the school district's comprehensive
7 school improvement plan submitted pursuant to section 256.7,
8 subsection 21. The content of the training shall be based on
9 nationally recognized best practices.

10 Sec. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
11 3, shall not apply to this Act.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill requires the board of directors of a school
16 district to integrate biennial, evidence-based training on
17 suicide prevention for all school personnel who hold a license,
18 certificate, authorization, or statement of recognition
19 issued by the board of educational examiners and who have
20 regular contact with students in grades 6 through 12 into the
21 school district's comprehensive school improvement plan by
22 July 1, 2017. The content of the training shall be based on
23 nationally recognized best practices. The bill provides a
24 similar requirement for training on trauma-informed care for
25 school personnel who have regular contact with students in
26 kindergarten through grade 12.

27 The bill requires the department of education to adopt rules
28 by July 1, 2017, to require school districts to adopt protocols
29 for suicide prevention and postvention and trauma-informed care
30 based on nationally recognized best practices.

31 The bill defines "trauma-informed care" as services that are
32 based on an understanding of the vulnerabilities and triggers
33 of individuals who have experienced trauma, recognize the role
34 trauma has played in the lives of those individuals, recognize
35 the presence of trauma symptoms and their onset, are supportive

1 of trauma recovery, and avoid further traumatization. The bill
2 defines "postvention" as the provision of crisis intervention,
3 support, and assistance for those affected by a suicide or
4 suicide attempt to prevent further risk of suicide.

5 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
6 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
7 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
8 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of
9 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,
10 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state
11 mandate included in the bill.