

House File 98 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 98

BY STAED, HUNTER, McCONKEY,
B. MEYER, FORBES, LENSING,
DONAHUE, BROWN-POWERS,
KURTH, WOLFE, JACOBY,
MASCHER, WINCKLER, and
ANDERSON

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing an Iowa center for suicide prevention in
2 the department of education and making an appropriation.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256.95 Iowa center for suicide
2 prevention.

3 1. For purposes of this section, unless the context
4 otherwise requires:

5 a. "*Adverse childhood experience*" means the same as defined
6 in section 279.70.

7 b. "*Postvention*" means the same as defined in section
8 279.70.

9 2. The Iowa center for suicide prevention is established in
10 the department to provide, in a coordinated and comprehensive
11 way, ongoing support to Iowa's schools relating to suicide
12 prevention and postvention and the identification of adverse
13 childhood experiences and strategies to mitigate toxic
14 stress response, in the form of information, resources,
15 and evidence-based training content. It shall be the goal
16 of the center that every student, regardless of where they
17 reside in the state, have access to the same high-quality
18 suicide prevention, intervention, and support resources. The
19 department may employ personnel necessary to carry out the
20 duties of the center.

21 3. The center shall have the initial responsibility
22 of supporting schools with programs and development of
23 trauma-informed learning programs for suicide prevention
24 and postvention and the identification of adverse childhood
25 experiences and strategies to mitigate toxic stress response,
26 including but not limited to the following:

27 a. Through collaboration with suicide prevention
28 coordinators and initiatives across state departments, the
29 center shall lead a public-private coalition of state and
30 local agencies, community groups, organizations including area
31 education agencies, and individuals with the goal of supporting
32 statewide suicide prevention, awareness, and intervention, and
33 providing necessary resources for such efforts.

34 b. The center shall adapt existing evidence-based training
35 on suicide prevention and postvention and the identification

1 of adverse childhood experiences and strategies to mitigate
2 toxic stress response for school personnel, which training
3 accounts for best practices and up-to-date research in these
4 fields, to be provided pursuant to section 279.70. The center
5 shall provide guidance and support to schools providing such
6 training.

7 *c.* The center shall develop evidence-based model protocols
8 to assist schools in suicide prevention and postvention and the
9 identification of adverse childhood experiences and strategies
10 to mitigate toxic stress response, to be adopted pursuant to
11 section 256.7, subsection 33.

12 *d.* The center shall develop recommendations for
13 social-emotional learning programs and supports for schools.

14 *e.* The center shall encourage content developed by the
15 center to be included in preservice teacher training.

16 4. The long-term responsibilities of the center shall
17 include the following:

18 *a.* Coordinating a comprehensive community effort of suicide
19 prevention to identify and develop supports for students at
20 risk of suicide.

21 *b.* Adapting, reviewing, and improving evidence-based
22 training on suicide prevention and postvention and the
23 identification of adverse childhood experiences and strategies
24 to mitigate toxic stress response on an ongoing basis.

25 *c.* Identifying unmet needs in school and community
26 social-emotional learning supports.

27 *d.* Supporting efforts by schools to provide students with
28 resources relating to suicide prevention and postvention
29 and the identification of adverse childhood experiences and
30 strategies to mitigate toxic stress response.

31 *e.* Through community involvement, identifying resources
32 outside of a school setting for students identified as at risk
33 for suicide.

34 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the
35 general fund of the state to the department of education for

1 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30,
2 2020, the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary,
3 to be used for the purposes designated:

4 For the establishment and administration of the Iowa
5 center for suicide prevention, including salaries, support,
6 maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes:

7 \$ 500,000

8 EXPLANATION

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

11 This bill establishes the Iowa center for suicide prevention
12 in the department of education to provide, in a coordinated and
13 comprehensive way, ongoing support to Iowa's schools relating
14 to suicide prevention and postvention and the identification
15 of adverse childhood experiences and strategies to mitigate
16 toxic stress response, in the form of information, resources,
17 and evidence-based training content. The goal of the center
18 is that every student, regardless of where they reside in the
19 state, have access to the same high-quality suicide prevention,
20 intervention, and support resources. The department may employ
21 personnel necessary to carry out the duties of the center.

22 The bill provides that the center has the initial
23 responsibility of supporting schools with implementation of
24 suicide prevention programs and development of trauma-informed
25 learning environments, including adaptation of existing
26 evidence-based training on suicide prevention and postvention
27 and the identification of adverse childhood experiences
28 and strategies to mitigate toxic stress response for school
29 personnel and development of evidence-based model protocols
30 to assist schools in suicide prevention and postvention
31 and the identification of adverse childhood experiences and
32 strategies to mitigate toxic stress response. The bill also
33 provides long-term responsibilities of the center, including
34 adapting, reviewing, and improving evidence-based training on
35 suicide prevention and postvention and the identification of

1 adverse childhood experiences and strategies to mitigate toxic
2 stress response on an ongoing basis and supporting efforts by
3 schools to provide students with resources relating to suicide
4 prevention and postvention and the identification of adverse
5 childhood experiences and strategies to mitigate toxic stress
6 response.

7 The bill appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund of
8 the state to the department for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the
9 establishment and administration of the center.

10 The bill defines "adverse childhood experience" as a
11 potentially traumatic event occurring in childhood that can
12 have negative, lasting effects on an individual's health and
13 well-being. The bill defines "postvention" as the provision of
14 crisis intervention, support, and assistance for those affected
15 by a suicide or suicide attempt to prevent further risk of
16 suicide.