
SENATE BILL 6449

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Wellman, Wagoner, Takko, Walsh, Hunt, Zeiger, Cleveland, Kuderer, Nguyen, and Das

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring contact information for suicide
2 prevention and crisis intervention organizations on student and staff
3 identification cards; adding a new section to chapter 28A.210 RCW;
4 adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW; creating new sections;
5 and providing an expiration date.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there are
8 national and local organizations specializing in suicide prevention,
9 crisis intervention, and counseling that provide free, confidential
10 emotional support for people who are in suicidal crisis or emotional
11 distress. Immediate access to these services often prevents suicide,
12 attempted suicide, and other harm. The federal government recognized
13 the importance of free support services when, in 2005, it launched a
14 ten digit national suicide prevention lifeline and then, in 2019, it
15 announced plans to designate 988 as the national suicide prevention
16 and mental health crisis hotline. The contact information for these
17 lifesaving services should be easily accessible to Washington
18 residents, particularly students and the caring adults who work with
19 them. Therefore, the legislature intends to require that contact
20 information for suicide prevention and crisis intervention
21 organizations be printed on student and staff identification cards.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.210
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) Every public and private school that issues student
4 identification cards, staff identification cards, or both, must have
5 printed on either side of the identification cards:

6 (a) The contact information for a national suicide prevention
7 organization; and

8 (b) The contact information for one or more campus, local, state,
9 or national organizations specializing in suicide prevention, crisis
10 intervention, or counseling, if available.

11 (2) The requirements in subsection (1) of this section apply to
12 student identification cards and staff identification cards issued
13 for the first time and issued to replace a damaged or lost
14 identification card.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1) Every institution of higher education as defined in RCW
18 28B.10.016, degree-granting institution as defined in RCW 28B.85.010,
19 private vocational school as defined in RCW 28C.10.020, and school as
20 defined in RCW 18.16.020 that issues student identification cards,
21 faculty or staff identification cards, or both, must have printed on
22 either side of the identification cards:

23 (a) The contact information for a national suicide prevention
24 organization; and

25 (b) The contact information for one or more campus, local, state,
26 or national organizations specializing in suicide prevention, crisis
27 intervention, or counseling, if available.

28 (2) The requirements in subsection (1) of this section apply to
29 student identification cards and faculty or staff identification
30 cards issued for the first time and issued to replace a damaged or
31 lost identification card.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) Notwithstanding the requirements in
33 sections 2 and 3 of this act, if a school or institution of higher
34 education subject to the requirements of section 2 or 3 of this act,
35 respectively, has a supply of unissued identification cards that do
36 not comply with the requirements of section 2 or 3 of this act, the
37 school or institution of higher education may issue those
38 identification cards until that supply is depleted.

1 (2) This section expires June 30, 2021.

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