

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY SENATOR MIZELL

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Requests the Louisiana Department of Education to develop and implement a system for collecting and reporting aggregated, non-identifiable data on suicide risk assessments conducted in public schools.

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Education to develop and implement a system for collecting and reporting aggregated, non-identifiable data on suicide risk assessments conducted in public schools and to submit an annual report of the data to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare, and to involve Peer Initiative and the Louisiana Mental Health Association in the development, implementation, and training associated with this process.

WHEREAS, suicide has tragically become the second leading cause of death for teenagers in Louisiana, with rates steadily increasing nationwide, highlighting an urgent public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, the safety, mental health, and well-being of our youth is a priority shared by parents, educators, and communities throughout Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, despite the critical nature of this issue, many Louisiana school districts currently lack standardized protocols to collect or report non-identifiable data on suicide risk assessments, leaving policymakers and educators without vital information needed to address and mitigate these risks effectively; and

WHEREAS, without a comprehensive, data-driven approach, Louisiana risks falling short in efforts to protect at-risk youth and to implement targeted, impactful mental health

1 services within our schools; and

2 WHEREAS, data collected through suicide risk assessments would allow the  
3 Louisiana Department of Education to identify trends, assess gaps in mental health services,  
4 and better allocate resources to address this crisis; and

5 WHEREAS, a statewide initiative to collect and report this critical data would ensure  
6 transparency, accountability, and an evidence-based foundation for future suicide prevention  
7 efforts; and

8 WHEREAS, Peer Initiative, a statewide leader in peer support and teen suicide  
9 prevention, has extensive experience training students and school personnel on mental health  
10 and crisis intervention strategies and has demonstrated success in partnering with  
11 educational institutions to implement effective prevention programs; and

12 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Mental Health Association (LMHA), a nonprofit  
13 organization committed to improving mental health care and advocating for individuals and  
14 families affected by mental illness, has a long-standing history of working with schools,  
15 communities, and policymakers to promote mental health awareness and support.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
17 does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Education to develop and  
18 implement a system for collecting and reporting aggregated, non-identifiable data on suicide  
19 risk assessments conducted by school personnel in public schools statewide.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the data collected shall include but not be  
21 limited to:

- 22 (1) The total number of suicide risk assessments conducted annually.  
23 (2) Age ranges and grade levels of students assessed.  
24 (3) Aggregated demographic information, including race, ethnicity, and gender.  
25 (4) The number of students referred to mental health services as a result of the  
26 assessments.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all data collected shall be aggregated and  
28 non-identifiable, ensuring that individual students cannot be personally identified.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each school district shall submit an annual report  
30 compiling this data to the Louisiana Department of Education by August first following the

1 completion of each school year.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Education shall  
3 compile and submit a comprehensive annual report to the House and Senate committees on  
4 health and welfare by October first of each year.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Education shall  
6 develop guidelines and provide training resources to assist school districts in the collection  
7 and reporting of data and shall include Peer Initiative and the Louisiana Mental Health  
8 Association in the development, implementation, and training associated with these efforts.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
10 state superintendent of education and the executive director of the Louisiana School Boards  
11 Association.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
13 recognizes the importance of suicide prevention efforts and expresses its commitment to  
14 promoting the mental health and safety of Louisiana's youth through informed,  
15 evidence-based policy initiatives.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.  
The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof  
or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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	DIGEST	
SR 119 Original	2025 Regular Session	Mizell

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