

By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 2070

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the duties of the statewide behavioral health coordinating council regarding suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention policies and procedures.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 531.471, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 531.471. DEFINITIONS [~~DEFINITION~~]. In this subchapter:

(1) "Council [~~,"council"]~~" means the statewide behavioral health coordinating council.

(2) "Postvention" includes activities that promote healing necessary to reduce the risk of suicide by a person affected by the suicide of another.

SECTION 2. Section 531.476, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 531.476. POWERS AND DUTIES. The council:

(1) shall develop and monitor the implementation of a five-year statewide behavioral health strategic plan;

(2) shall develop a biennial coordinated statewide behavioral health expenditure proposal;

(3) shall annually publish an updated inventory of behavioral health programs and services that are funded by the state that includes a description of how those programs and

1 services further the purpose of the statewide behavioral health
2 strategic plan;

3 (4) shall examine the policies and procedures
4 regarding suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention of
5 each entity represented on the council to determine whether the
6 policies and procedures are:

7 (A) in accordance with best practices for suicide
8 prevention, intervention, and postvention; and

9 (B) in alignment with the policies and procedures
10 of the other entities on the council;

11 (5) shall establish model policies and procedures
12 regarding suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention,
13 ensuring that those policies and procedures:

14 (A) include information about identifying
15 persons at high risk for suicide;

16 (B) support best practices for suicide
17 prevention, intervention, and postvention;

18 (C) align with the policies and procedures of
19 entities represented on the council; and

20 (D) are research-based;

21 (6) shall require each entity represented on the
22 council that provides suicide prevention, intervention, and
23 postvention services to adopt the model policies and procedures
24 established under Subdivision (5);

25 (7) shall provide the model policies and procedures
26 established under Subdivision (5) to each state agency that
27 provides suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention

1 services;

2 (8) may create subcommittees to carry out the
3 council's duties under this subchapter; and

4 (9) [~~(5)~~] may facilitate opportunities to increase
5 collaboration for the effective expenditure of available federal
6 and state funds for behavioral and mental health services in this
7 state.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.