

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 884

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to suicide awareness and prevention training for certain employees of the Texas Veterans Commission.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 434, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 434.0145 to read as follows:

Sec. 434.0145. TRAINING FOR EMPLOYEES REGARDING SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION. The commission shall provide training regarding suicide awareness and prevention to commission employees who have direct contact with veterans. The training must include instruction regarding suicide awareness and prevention with information and materials on:

(1) methods for identifying the signs and signals of depression, suicide, and self-harm in veterans;

(2) the importance of and process for seeking help for veterans at risk of suicide; and

(3) veteran suicide prevention and intervention procedures and resources outlined by:

(A) the veteran suicide prevention action plan under Section 531.0925; and

(B) the mental health intervention program for veterans under Section 1001.222, Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.