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To: State of the States Suicide Prevention Webinar Attendees

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Subject: Legislation Related to Suicide Prevention and NCSL Resources

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Suicide Prevention Legislative Report

While suicide is a complex and growing problem among the states, suicide is preventable and there are evidence-based policy options lawmakers can consider. The report "[Reversing the Rising Tide of Suicide](#)" provides an overview of legislative suicide prevention strategies and examples of bills enacted or considered across the 50 states to prevent suicide.

Behavioral Health and COVID-19 Policy Snapshot

NCSL has developed several policy snapshots—which include state policy options, state examples, federal action and key resources—on priority health topics related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This [snapshot](#) provides an overview of behavioral health topics and how state legislatures have responded to increase access to behavioral health care and overdose prevention.

Military and Veteran Suicide Prevention Legisbrief

The 2020 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) report on military veteran suicide, catalogs 17.6 veteran suicides per day in 2018. This amounts to 6,424 veteran lives lost to suicide annually, increasing steadily each year from 6,056 in 2005. These unacceptably high numbers are part of an ongoing and vexing public health problem in the United States. This [Legisbrief](#) covers the ways in which state legislatures are addressing suicide prevention in this particularly vulnerable community.



Enacted Suicide Prevention Legislation, 2021

State	Bill #	Description
Alabama	<u>HJR 28</u>	Relates to the Task Force on Veterans' Suicide, extended, to prevent suicide among service members, veterans, and their families.
Arkansas	<u>HB 1549</u>	Amends various provisions of the 2015 School Safety Act; establishes the State Center for School Safety of the Criminal Justice Institute Advisory Board.
Arkansas	<u>HB 1689</u>	Creates the state legislative study on mental and behavioral health.
Arkansas	<u>SB 27</u>	Ensures that the suicide prevention hotline employs individuals who have experience working with veterans.
Arizona	<u>HB 2542</u>	Relates to veteran suicides; relates to annual report.
California	<u>ACR 23</u>	Promotes awareness of the problem of suicide facing the men and women within California's construction industry populations by proclaiming March 18, 2021 as Construction Industry Suicide Prevention Awareness Day in California.
Colorado	<u>HB 1106</u>	Concerns measures to secure firearms to prevent use by persons not lawfully permitted to possess firearms.
Colorado	<u>HB 1119</u>	Broadens the State's priorities and focus on suicide and suicide attempts and the after-effects of those actions on attempt survivors, family, friends health care providers, first and last responders, educators and students in schools where a suicide or suicide attempt has occurred.
District of Columbia	<u>B 1021</u>	Amends, on an emergency basis, the Firearms Control Regulations Act of 1975 to establish an Extreme Risk Protection Order Implementation Working Group, to provide for its membership and to specify its duties.
Hawaii	<u>HR 57</u>	Designates September 2021 as Suicide Prevention and Action Month.
Idaho	<u>HCR 11</u>	States findings of the Legislature; recognizes 988 as the universal mental health and suicide prevention crisis phone number.
Kentucky	<u>HB 44</u>	Makes the firefighters eligible for crisis intervention team training along with law enforcement officers currently permitted such training.
Kentucky	<u>HB 192</u>	Relates to appropriations measures providing funding and establishing conditions for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
Montana	<u>HB 70</u>	Revises the Department of Public Health and Human Services suicide prevention program.
North Dakota	<u>SB 2311</u>	Relates to mental health awareness and suicide prevention instruction for students; provides for resources on mental health awareness and



		suicide prevention to the behavioral health resource coordinator at each public school.
Oklahoma	<u>SB 21</u>	Relates to schools, relates to suicide awareness and drug abuse policies.
Utah	<u>HB 60</u>	Provides for the transfer of unused funds in the Concealed Weapons Account to the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health for suicide prevention efforts.
Utah	<u>HB 336</u>	This bill amends and creates programs to address suicide.
Utah	<u>SB 127</u>	Modifies provisions related to human services programs
Utah	<u>SB 155</u>	Creates the 988 Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services Account.
Virginia	<u>SB 1302</u>	Relates to crisis call center; relates to Crisis Call Center Fund established.