

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to suicide prevention; providing for a  
3           pilot program to be conducted by the Signs of Suicide  
4           Prevention Program for secondary schools in specified  
5           counties; requiring the submission of proposals to the  
6           Department of Education; providing for student  
7           participation in the pilot program and for the provision  
8           of certain information to parents and legal guardians;  
9           requiring a report to the Legislature; requiring  
10          implementation of the pilot program to be contingent upon  
11          state funding and equivalent matching funds; providing an  
12          effective date.

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14   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16          Section 1. Signs of Suicide Prevention Program for  
17          secondary schools; pilot program.--

18               (1) Contingent upon funding in the General Appropriations  
19          Act, there is established a pilot program to be conducted by the  
20          Signs of Suicide Prevention Program for secondary schools,  
21          hereinafter referred to as "SOS." The pilot program shall  
22          encourage collaboration with local mental health facilities and  
23          individual professionals.

24               (2) During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, an SOS pilot program  
25          shall be conducted in Brevard, Orange, Osceola, and Seminole  
26          counties. In order to receive funding under this act, an SOS  
27          entity for a county authorized to participate in the pilot

28 program must submit to the Department of Education by September  
29 1, 2006, a proposal for suicide and depression prevention for  
30 secondary school students who attend school in that county. The  
31 pilot program shall provide school personnel in each  
32 participating school with the materials necessary for  
33 implementation.

34 (3) The parent or legal guardian of each student in a  
35 participating school shall be provided with a copy of program  
36 information and a screening form to assist the parent or legal  
37 guardian in the identification of depression and suicidal  
38 tendencies and to help initiate family discussions. There shall  
39 be no screening of students without the written consent of a  
40 parent or legal guardian.

41 (4) By January 1, 2007, the district school board of each  
42 participating county shall provide to the President of the  
43 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report  
44 that includes an itemized list of program costs, an evaluation  
45 of participating schools, an assessment of the quality of the  
46 program components, an assessment of the safety of program  
47 implementation, an assessment of the burden on school support  
48 staff after implementation of the program, an assessment of the  
49 efficacy of the program, and recommendations regarding program  
50 effects and outcomes. The information shall be reported for the  
51 pilot program in the aggregate, for each participating county,  
52 and for each participating school in each participating county.

53 Section 2. Implementation of the pilot program conducted  
54 by the Signs of Suicide Prevention Program for secondary schools

55 | shall be contingent upon funding in the 2006-2007 General  
56 | Appropriations Act. Funds appropriated to the Department of  
57 | Education for the pilot program shall be distributed to the  
58 | Michael Buonauro Foundation to implement the pilot program in  
59 | accordance with this act. In order to receive state funds for  
60 | this purpose, the Michael Buonauro Foundation shall provide  
61 | matching funds in an amount equal to the appropriation.

62 |       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.