

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to suicide prevention; creating s.
 3 14.2019, F.S.; creating the Statewide Office for Suicide
 4 Prevention as a unit of the Office of Drug Control in the
 5 Executive Office of the Governor; providing the goals and
 6 objectives of the office; creating the position of
 7 statewide coordinator for the statewide office, contingent
 8 upon a specific appropriation; authorizing the Statewide
 9 Office for Suicide Prevention to seek and accept grants or
 10 funds from any source to support its operation; requiring
 11 that revenues from grants be deposited into the Grants and
 12 Donations Trust Fund within the Executive Office of the
 13 Governor; creating s. 14.20195, F.S.; creating the Suicide
 14 Prevention Coordinating Council within the Statewide
 15 Office for Suicide Prevention; providing the scope of
 16 activities for the coordinating council; authorizing the
 17 coordinating council to assemble an ad hoc committee to
 18 advise the coordinating council; providing for membership
 19 on the coordinating council; providing an appropriation
 20 and authorizing additional positions; providing an
 21 effective date.

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

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 25 Section 1. Section 14.2019, Florida Statutes, is created
 26 to read:

27 14.2019 Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention.--
 28 (1) The Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention is created

29 as a unit of the Office of Drug Control within the Executive
30 Office of the Governor.

31 (2) The statewide office shall, within available
32 resources:

33 (a) Develop a network of community-based programs to
34 improve suicide prevention initiatives. The network shall
35 identify and work to eliminate barriers to providing suicide
36 prevention services to individuals who are at risk of suicide.
37 The network shall consist of stakeholders advocating suicide
38 prevention, including, but not limited to, not-for-profit
39 suicide prevention organizations, faith-based suicide prevention
40 organizations, law enforcement agencies, first responders to
41 emergency calls, suicide prevention community coalitions,
42 schools and universities, mental health agencies, substance
43 abuse treatment agencies, health care providers, and school
44 personnel.

45 (b) Prepare and implement the statewide plan with the
46 advice of the Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council.

47 (c) Increase public awareness concerning topics relating
48 to suicide prevention.

49 (d) Coordinate education and training curricula in suicide
50 prevention efforts for law enforcement personnel, first
51 responders to emergency calls, health care providers, school
52 employees, and other persons who may have contact with persons
53 at risk of suicide.

54 (3) Contingent upon a specific appropriation, the director
55 of the Office of Drug Control shall employ a coordinator for the
56 Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention who shall work under the

57 direction of the director to achieve the goals and objectives
 58 set forth in this section.

59 (4) The Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention may seek
 60 and accept grants or funds from any federal, state, or local
 61 source to support the operation and defray the authorized
 62 expenses of the office and the Suicide Prevention Coordinating
 63 Council. Revenues from grants shall be deposited in the Grants
 64 and Donations Trust Fund within the Executive Office of the
 65 Governor. In accordance with s. 216.181(11), the Executive
 66 Office of the Governor may request changes to the approved
 67 operating budget to allow the expenditure of any additional
 68 grant funds collected pursuant to this subsection.

69 (5) Agencies under the control of the Governor or the
 70 Governor and Cabinet are directed, and all others are
 71 encouraged, to provide information and support to the Statewide
 72 Office for Suicide Prevention as requested.

73 Section 2. Section 14.20195, Florida Statutes, is created
 74 to read:

75 14.20195 Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council;
 76 creation; membership; duties.--There is created within the
 77 Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention a Suicide Prevention
 78 Coordinating Council. The council shall develop strategies for
 79 preventing suicide.

80 (1) SCOPE OF ACTIVITY.--The Suicide Prevention
 81 Coordinating Council is a coordinating council as defined in s.
 82 20.03 and shall:

83 (a) Advise the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention
 84 regarding the development of a statewide plan for suicide

85 prevention, with the guiding principle being that suicide is a
86 preventable problem. The statewide plan must:

87 1. Align and provide direction for statewide suicide
88 prevention initiatives.

89 2. Establish partnerships with state and private agencies
90 for the purpose of promoting public awareness of suicide
91 prevention.

92 3. Address specific populations in this state who are at
93 risk for suicide.

94 4. Identify ways to improve access to crisis services for
95 individuals in acute situations.

96 5. Identify resources to support the implementation of the
97 statewide plan.

98 (b) Assemble an ad hoc advisory committee comprised of
99 members from outside the council, if necessary, in order for the
100 council to receive advice and assistance in carrying out its
101 responsibilities.

102 (c) Make findings and recommendations regarding suicide
103 prevention programs and activities. The council shall prepare an
104 annual report and present it to the Governor, the President of
105 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
106 January 1, 2008, and each year thereafter. The annual report
107 must describe the status of existing and planned initiatives
108 identified in the statewide plan for suicide prevention and any
109 recommendations arising therefrom.

110 (2) MEMBERSHIP.--The Suicide Prevention Coordinating
111 Council shall consist of 28 voting members.

112 (a) Fourteen members shall be appointed by the director of

113 the Office of Drug Control and shall represent the following
 114 organizations:

- 115 1. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation
- 116 described in s. 394.655.
- 117 2. The Florida Association of School Psychologists.
- 118 3. The Florida Sheriffs Association.
- 119 4. The Suicide Prevention Action Network USA.
- 120 5. The Florida Initiative of Suicide Prevention.
- 121 6. The Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition.
- 122 7. The Alzheimer's Association.
- 123 8. The Florida School Board Association.
- 124 9. Volunteer Florida.
- 125 10. The state chapter of AARP.
- 126 11. The Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association.
- 127 12. The Florida Council for Community Mental Health.
- 128 13. The Florida Counseling Association.
- 129 14. NAMI Florida.

130 (b) The following state officials or their designees shall
 131 serve on the coordinating council:

- 132 1. The Secretary of Elderly Affairs.
- 133 2. The Secretary of Health.
- 134 3. The Commissioner of Education.
- 135 4. The Secretary of Health Care Administration.
- 136 5. The Secretary of Juvenile Justice.
- 137 6. The Secretary of Corrections.
- 138 7. The executive director of the Department of Law
- 139 Enforcement.
- 140 8. The executive director of the Department of Veterans'

141 Affairs.

142 9. The Secretary of Children and Family Services.

143 10. The director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation.

144 (c) The Governor shall appoint four additional members to
145 the coordinating council. The appointees must have expertise
146 that is critical to the prevention of suicide or represent an
147 organization that is not already represented on the coordinating
148 council.

149 (d) For the members appointed by the director of the
150 Office of Drug Control, seven members shall be appointed to
151 initial terms of 3 years, and seven members shall be appointed
152 to initial terms of 4 years. For the members appointed by the
153 Governor, two members shall be appointed to initial terms of 4
154 years, and two members shall be appointed to initial terms of 3
155 years. Thereafter, such members shall be appointed to terms of 4
156 years. Any vacancy on the coordinating council shall be filled
157 in the same manner as the original appointment, and any member
158 who is appointed to fill a vacancy occurring because of death,
159 resignation, or ineligibility for membership shall serve only
160 for the unexpired term of the member's predecessor. A member is
161 eligible for reappointment.

162 (e) The director of the Office of Drug Control shall be a
163 nonvoting member of the coordinating council and shall act as
164 chair.

165 (f) Members of the coordinating council shall serve
166 without compensation. Any member of the coordinating council who
167 is a public employee is entitled to reimbursement for per diem
168 and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

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169 (3) MEETINGS.--The coordinating council shall meet at
170 least quarterly or upon the call of the chair. The council
171 meetings may be held via teleconference or other electronic
172 means.

173 Section 3. Two full-time equivalent positions are
174 authorized, and the sum of \$150,000 is appropriated from the
175 General Revenue Fund to the Office of Drug Control for the
176 purpose of implementing this act during the 2007-2008 fiscal
177 year.

178 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.