

HB 1073

2021

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to student mental health; amending s.  
3           1006.07, F.S.; requiring district school boards to  
4           adopt policies relating to student mental health;  
5           requiring that such policies include access to  
6           specified professionals in the school setting, access  
7           to a continuum of services during the school day, and  
8           procedures to aid a student experiencing a mental  
9           health crisis; requiring such procedures ensure  
10          appropriate care, minimize the use of law enforcement  
11          and hospitalization, involve the use of mobile crisis  
12          response services that meet certain criteria, include  
13          a method to request assistance discreetly, and include  
14          methods for engaging the student and their family in  
15          continuing treatment; providing an effective date.

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

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19           Section 1. Subsection (10) is added to section 1006.07,  
20   Florida Statutes, to read:

21           1006.07 District school board duties relating to student  
22   discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall  
23   provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the  
24   attendance and control of students at school, and for proper  
25   attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the

26 | welfare of students, including:

27 |       (10) STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH.—Adopt policies to provide  
28 | mental health assistance for students in grades 9-12. These  
29 | policies must include:

30 |       (a) Access to mental health professionals in the school  
31 | setting. Such professionals include therapists, counselors,  
32 | psychologists, and social workers.

33 |       (b) A continuum of services available during the school  
34 | day to facilitate better access to such services and outcomes.

35 |       (c) Procedures to aid a student experiencing a mental  
36 | health crisis on a school campus. Such procedures must:

37 |           1. Ensure that the student receives an appropriate level  
38 | of care and minimize the use of law enforcement and  
39 | hospitalization.

40 |           2. Include the use of mobile crisis response services, as  
41 | defined in s. 394.455. Such response services must be operated  
42 | or contracted by a district school board, county government, or  
43 | municipal government and be able to arrive at a school campus  
44 | within 1 hour after being called.

45 |           3. Include a method for an educator to discreetly request  
46 | assistance from a mobile crisis response service.

47 |           4. Include methods for engaging the student and the  
48 | student's family in continuing mental health treatment, if  
49 | appropriate, designed to maintain the student's stability and  
50 | status in school without the use of hospitalization and in-

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51 | patient treatment.

52 |       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.