

By Senator Brodeur

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to suicide prevention; directing the
3 Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention within the
4 Department of Children and Families to conduct a study
5 for specified purposes; specifying requirements for
6 the study; requiring the office to submit the report
7 to the Legislature and the Secretary of Children and
8 Families by a specified date; providing an effective
9 date.

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

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13 Section 1. (1) In order to assess the adequacy of the
14 current infrastructure of Florida's National Suicide Prevention
15 Lifeline (NSPL) system and other components of the state's
16 behavioral health crisis system and to inform the Legislature on
17 how best to provide appropriate and sustainable funding for such
18 purposes, the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention within the
19 Department of Children and Families shall conduct a study that,
20 at a minimum, includes the following:

21 (a) An overview of the current infrastructure of the NSPL
22 system within this state.

23 (b) An analysis of the current capacity of other crisis
24 response services available throughout the state, including
25 services provided by mobile response teams and centralized
26 receiving facilities. The analysis must include information on
27 the geographic area and the total population served by each
28 mobile response team along with the average response time to
29 each call made to a mobile response team; the number of calls

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30 that a mobile response team was unable to respond to due to
31 staff limitations, travel distance, or other factors; and the
32 veteran status and age groups of individuals served by mobile
33 response teams.

34 (c) Proposed strategies to improve linkages between the
35 NSPL infrastructure and crisis response services throughout the
36 state.

37 (d) In consultation with the Department of Children and
38 Families, identified available mental health block grant funds
39 that can be used to support the NSPL and crisis response
40 infrastructure within this state, including any available
41 funding through opioid settlements or through the American
42 Rescue Plan Act, Pub. L. No. 117-2, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief,
43 and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, or other
44 federal legislation.

45 (e) In consultation with the Agency for Health Care
46 Administration, identified sources of funding available through
47 the Medicaid program specifically for crisis response services,
48 including funding that may be available through seeking approval
49 of a section 1115 waiver submitted to the Centers for Medicare
50 and Medicaid Services.

51 (f) Proposed strategies to ensure that managing entities
52 continue to work with community stakeholders throughout the
53 state in furtherance of supporting the NSPL system and other
54 crisis response services.

55 (2) By July 1, 2023, the office shall submit a report
56 detailing the findings of the study to the President of the
57 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairs
58 of the appropriations committees of the Legislature, the chairs

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59 of the committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
60 behavioral health care services, and the Secretary of Children
61 and Families.

62 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.