

By Senator Rodriguez

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to classroom teacher mental health
3 care; amending s. 1001.42, F.S.; requiring district
4 school boards to provide classroom teachers with
5 access to mental health services and mental health
6 days; providing requirements for such mental health
7 services and mental health days; providing an
8 effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Paragraph (o) is added to subsection (4) of
13 section 1001.42, Florida Statutes, to read:

14 1001.42 Powers and duties of district school board.—The
15 district school board, acting as a board, shall exercise all
16 powers and perform all duties listed below:

17 (4) ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION, AND OPERATION OF SCHOOLS.—
18 Adopt and provide for the execution of plans for the
19 establishment, organization, and operation of the schools of the
20 district, including, but not limited to, the following:

21 (o) Mental health care and mental health days for classroom
22 teachers.—Provide classroom teachers, as defined in s.
23 1012.01(2)(a), with:

24 1. Access to mental health services by a mental health
25 counselor or psychiatrist, as those terms are defined in s.
26 394.455, with adequate training for the specific needs of
27 classroom teachers, with the goal of preventing job-related
28 stress and depression. The district school board must provide a
29 35 percent discount on the copay for such services and may

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30 provide such services at no cost to classroom teachers.

31 2. Mental health days. The mental health days must include
32 in-school mental health activities, including, but not limited
33 to, on-site mental health services, group activities, speakers,
34 and activities that promote a healthier lifestyle.

35 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.