

SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 228

A bill to create a suicide prevention commission within the legislative council and to prescribe its powers and duties; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state officers and entities.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2 (a) "Commission" means the suicide prevention commission
3 created in section 3.

4 (b) "Council" means the legislative council established under
5 section 15 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

6 (c) "Executive committee" means the executive committee
7 described in section 5.

8 Sec. 3. (1) The suicide prevention commission is created
9 within the council.

1 (2) The commission consists of the following 25 members:

2 (a) Eleven members appointed by the governor as follows:

3 (i) One member who is a researcher with an advanced degree
4 from a university that is located in this state who is selected
5 from a list of nominees submitted by the Michigan Association of
6 State Universities.

7 (ii) An undergraduate or graduate student who is studying or
8 working in the area of suicide prevention who is selected from a
9 list of nominees submitted by the American Foundation for Suicide
10 Prevention.

11 (iii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
12 submitted by the Michigan Association of Intermediate School
13 Administrators and who is trained in the "Michigan Model for
14 Health" curriculum.

15 (iv) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
16 submitted by the School-Community Health Alliance of Michigan.

17 (v) One member who represents health plans who is selected
18 from lists of nominees submitted by the Michigan Association of
19 Health Plans and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

20 (vi) One member who has knowledge or expertise in retiree or
21 vulnerable adult mental health issues who is selected from a list
22 of nominees submitted by the Fraternal Order of Police.

23 (vii) One member who is a suicide loss survivor who is
24 selected from a list of nominees submitted by the Michigan
25 Sheriffs' Association.

26 (viii) One member who has experience in suicide prevention who
27 is selected from a list of nominees submitted by the Michigan

1 Association of Chiefs of Police.

2 (ix) One member who is experienced in crisis intervention for
3 suicide response who is selected from a list of nominees submitted
4 by the Police Officers Association of Michigan.

5 (x) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
6 submitted by the Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs.

7 (xi) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
8 submitted by the Michigan Corrections Organization.

9 (b) The Michigan veterans' facility ombudsman or his or her
10 designee.

11 (c) One member who is appointed by the director of the
12 department of state police with expertise in substance use
13 disorders.

14 (d) Two members who are appointed by the speaker of the house
15 of representatives, 1 of whom represents a faith-based organization
16 and 1 who is selected from a list of nominees submitted by the
17 Michigan Professional Firefighters Union.

18 (e) Two members who are appointed by the senate majority
19 leader, at least 1 of whom has expertise in suicide prevention from
20 a community mental health services program that holds a grant from
21 the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

22 (f) Eight members appointed by the director of the department
23 of health and human services, including 7 appointed as follows:

24 (i) One member who represents a substance use disorder
25 treatment provider who is selected from a list of nominees
26 submitted by the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan.

27 (ii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees

1 submitted by the Michigan Psychological Association.

2 (iii) One member who is a member of the National Alliance on
3 Mental Illness who is selected from a list of nominees submitted by
4 the Michigan Psychiatric Society.

5 (iv) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
6 submitted by the Michigan Primary Care Association.

7 (v) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
8 submitted by the Michigan Health and Hospital Association and who
9 meets both of the following requirements:

10 (A) Is a physician licensed to engage in the practice of
11 medicine or the practice of osteopathic medicine and surgery.

12 (B) Has expertise in neurology.

13 (vi) An individual who is in charge of a local health
14 department or his or her designee.

15 (vii) One member who is a suicide attempt survivor.

16 (3) The members first appointed to the commission must be
17 appointed within 90 days after the effective date of this act.

18 (4) Members of the commission shall serve for 1 term of 4
19 years or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later.

20 (5) A vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same
21 manner as the original appointment. A member appointed to fill a
22 vacancy shall be appointed for the balance of the unexpired term.

23 (6) The chairperson of the commission may remove a member of
24 the commission for incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance,
25 misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause, on
26 a motion that is approved by a majority of the members of the
27 commission.

1 (7) The council administrator shall call the first meeting of
2 the commission. At the first meeting, the commission shall elect
3 from among its members a chairperson; and other officers as it
4 considers necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the
5 commission shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the
6 call of the chairperson or if requested by 5 or more members.

7 (8) A majority of the members of the commission constitute a
8 quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the
9 commission. A majority of the members present and serving are
10 required for official action of the commission.

11 (9) The business that the commission may perform must be
12 conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance
13 with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

14 (10) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or
15 retained by the commission in the performance of an official
16 function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442,
17 MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

18 (11) Members of the commission shall serve without
19 compensation. However, members of the commission may be reimbursed
20 for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance
21 of their official duties as members of the commission.

22 Sec. 5. (1) The commission shall do all of the following:

23 (a) Work with state departments and agencies and nonprofit
24 organizations on researching the causes and possible underlying
25 factors of suicide in this state. The research must focus on
26 demographics showing the highest suicide rates in this state in the
27 decade immediately preceding the effective date of this act, and

1 the highest growth in suicide rates during the time period
2 described in this subdivision. In determining the demographics, the
3 commission shall consider, at a minimum, rural and urban areas,
4 race, sex, occupation, age, and socioeconomic status.

5 (b) By 6 months after the effective date of this act, prepare
6 and present a preliminary report of its research and findings to
7 the legislature. The report must include identified causes for the
8 increase in suicide rates among the demographics described in
9 subdivision (a) and any other information the commission considers
10 relevant.

11 (c) By 1 year after the effective date of this act, and each
12 year thereafter, prepare and present to the legislature an updated
13 version of the report described in subdivision (b). The updated
14 version of the report must include recommendations for reducing
15 risk factors among the demographics described in subdivision (a)
16 and contain a list of evidence-based programs for suicide
17 prevention in this state with successful outcomes.

18 (d) Annually review and update any recommendations made under
19 this act and, if any of the commission's recommendations are
20 implemented, provide a process for ongoing monitoring of the
21 implementation of the recommendations.

22 (e) Provide recommendations for a process for continued state
23 coordination on suicide data collection, suicide prevention
24 programs, and a coordinated state approach to the prevention of
25 suicide to continue after this act no longer applies.

26 (2) At the first meeting of the commission, the commission
27 shall establish a 7-member executive committee that consists of all

1 of the following:

2 (a) Two members elected by the commission from among its
3 members.

4 (b) The member appointed to the commission by the governor
5 under section 3(2)(a)(i).

6 (c) The Michigan veterans' facility ombudsman or his or her
7 designee.

8 (d) The member appointed to the commission by the director of
9 the department of state police under section 3(2)(c).

10 (e) One member selected by the director of the department of
11 health and human services from the commission members appointed
12 under section 3(2)(f).

13 (f) One member selected by the senate majority leader from the
14 commission members appointed under section 3(2)(e).

15 (3) The executive committee shall do all of the following:

16 (a) Oversee the compilation of data and available resources in
17 coordination with universities in this state.

18 (b) Set timelines and tasks for the completion of the
19 commission's work by December 30, 2024.

20 (4) The commission shall also establish subcommittees that may
21 consist of individuals who are not members of the commission,
22 including, but not limited to, experts in matters of interest to
23 the commission, including the demographics described in subsection
24 (1)(a).

25 Sec. 7. The commission may, through its executive committee,
26 research policy recommendations from relevant sources and policy
27 initiatives from other states in order to make recommendations to

1 the governor and to the chairpersons of the house and senate
2 standing committees on health policy and the judiciary on
3 initiatives to reduce suicide rates among the demographics
4 described in section 5.

5 Sec. 9. The council shall furnish clerking services to the
6 commission.

7 Sec. 11. This act does not apply beginning December 31, 2024.

8 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect 90 days after the
9 date it is enacted into law.