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H.184

Introduced by Representatives Masland of Thetford, Briglin of Thetford,
Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, LaLonde of
South Burlington, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Till
of Jericho, Walz of Barre City, and Young of Glover

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; mental health; suicide tracking and evaluation

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
Department of Mental Health to evaluate the profile and factors related to each
suicide in the State.

An act relating to evaluation of suicide profiles

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

~~Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 7260 is added to read:~~

§ 7260. EVALUATION OF SUICIDE PROFILES

The Department of Mental Health shall receive all essential information
related to each suicide committed in the State from the Department of Health.

The Department shall evaluate the profile for and factors involved in each of
these deaths. On or before January 15 of each year, the Department shall

1 ~~submit a report to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and to the~~
2 ~~House Committee on Health Care regarding any findings and~~
3 ~~recommendations based on these evaluations.~~

4 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 ~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.~~

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 7260 is added to read:

§ 7260. EVALUATION OF SUICIDE PROFILES

(a) To the extent permitted under federal law, the Secretary of Human Services shall annually identify and collect information related to each death by suicide occurring in the State, including data from the Vermont Vital Statistics Program. The Agency shall use data collected by the Secretary to assess individual deaths by suicide for the purposes of:

(1) determining trends and patterns of suicide deaths;

(2) identifying and evaluating the prevalence of risk factors for preventable deaths;

(3) evaluating high-risk factors, current practices, gaps in systematic responses, and barriers to safety and well-being for individuals at risk for suicide;

(4) informing the implementation of suicide prevention activities and supporting the prioritization of suicide prevention resources and activities; and

~~*(5) recommending improvement to the sources of data relative to*~~

~~investigating reported suicide deaths and preventing suicide.~~

~~(b) On or before February 15 of each year, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and to the House Committee on Health Care regarding its findings and recommendations pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Reports produced by the Secretary shall not contain any personally identifying information.~~

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

~~*This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.*~~

Sec. 1. EVALUATION OF SUICIDE PROFILES

(a) On or before January 15, 2018, the Secretary of Human Services or designee shall present to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and to the House Committee on Health Care a summary of the Agency's internal Public Health Suicide Stat process results and any Vermont-specific analyses or reports completed in relation to the Agency's participation in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Violent Death Reporting System as well as national comparative data, including what methods the Agency currently uses or plans to use to:

(1) determine trends and patterns of suicide deaths;

(2) identify and evaluate the prevalence of risk factors for preventable deaths;

(3) evaluate high-risk factors, current practices, gaps in systematic

responses, and barriers to safety and well-being for individuals at risk for suicide; and

(4) inform the implementation of suicide prevention activities and supporting the prioritization of suicide prevention resources and activities.

~~(b) On or before January 15, 2019, the Secretary shall present plans to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and to the House Committee on Health Care describing how data relevant to subdivisions (a)(1)–(4) of this section shall be collected after the National Violent Death Reporting System grant expires.~~

(b) On or before January 15, 2019, the Secretary shall present plans describing how Vermont-specific data relevant to subdivisions (a)(1)–(4) of this section shall be collected after the National Violent Death Reporting System grant expires. The plan shall be presented to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee on Health Care, and the Green Mountain Care Board, in its capacity overseeing development and implementation of the All-Payer Model that includes reductions in suicide deaths among Vermont residents as a quality measure.

(c) On or before January 15, 2020, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, ~~and to~~ the House Committee on Health Care, and the Green Mountain Care Board summarizing:

(1) any Vermont-specific information from the Agency's final National

Violent Death Reporting System analysis relevant to subdivisions (a)(1)–(4) of this section as well as national comparative data; and

(2) the Agency’s recommendations and action plans resulting from its final National Violent Death Reporting System analysis and any additional Agency-led initiatives.

(d) The presentation and report required by subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall not contain any personally identifying information.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.