

## **TESTIMONY**

**Testimony To:** Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted by: Heather Bouchey, Interim Secretary of Education

Subject: H.481

**Date**: April 19, 2023

Sec. 2. STATEWIDE SUICIDE PREVENTION; STRATEGIC PLAN AND

2. SCHOOL PROTOCOL

- 1. (b) On or before January 15, 2024, the Director of Suicide Prevention, in
- 2. collaboration with the Agency of Education and stakeholders, shall develop
- 3. and submit a model protocol for all schools regarding suicide prevention,
- 4. education, and postvention services to the House Committee on Health Care
- 5. and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

The Agency of Education supports this section of the bill as written. We look forward to working with the Suicide Prevention Director and stakeholders on crafting a model protocol as specified. We thank Chair Lyons and committee members for their attention to this critical issue.

