WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
2020 REGULAR SESSION

Enrolled
Committee Substitute
for
Senate Bill 230

Senators Weld, Cline, Baldwin, Lindsay, Roberts, Stollings, Jeffries, and Maroney, original sponsors

[Passed March 7, 2020; in effect from passage]
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Committee Substitute
for
Senate Bill 230

SENATORS WELD, CLINE, BALDWIN, LINDSAY, ROBERTS,
STOLLINGS, JEFFRIES, AND MARONEY, original sponsors

[Passed March 7, 2020; in effect from passage]
AN ACT to amend and reenact §18-2-40 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
to suicide prevention awareness training and dissemination of information; providing
findings; requiring State Board of Education to provide routine education in suicide
prevention under guidelines established by board; requiring dissemination of information;
and naming provisions of section Jamie’s Law.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-40. Suicide prevention awareness training; dissemination of information.

(a)(1) Legislative findings. — The Legislature recognizes that the state of West Virginia
has one of the highest rates of suicide in the nation, and that suicide serves as one of the leading
causes of death in our state.

(2) The Legislature further finds that nationwide, suicide rates amongst adolescents and
young adults are on the rise. As a result of disrupted families, poverty, and the opioid crises which
have severely affected a significant number of families across this state, West Virginia’s students
face a number of issues which may increase their risk of suicide.

(3) Consequently, the Legislature finds that it is imperative that those in our education
system closest to our students receive training to increase their ability to better recognize students
who may be exhibiting signs that they are at risk of suicide.

(b) On or before September 1, 2020, and each year thereafter, the State Board of
Education shall provide for the routine education of all professional educators, including principals
and administrators, and those service personnel having direct contact with students on warning
signs and resources to assist in suicide prevention under guidelines established by the state
board. The education may be accomplished through self-review of suicide prevention materials
and resources approved by the state board.

(c) On or before September 1, 2020, and each year thereafter, a public middle and high
school administrator shall disseminate and provide opportunities to discuss suicide prevention
awareness information to all middle and high school students. The information may be obtained from the Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities or from a commercially developed suicide prevention training program approved by the State Board of Education in consultation with the bureau to assure the accuracy and appropriateness of the information.

(d) The provisions of this section shall be known as Jamie's Law.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman, Senate Committee

Chairman, House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 24th Day of March, 2020.

Governor
PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

MAR 17 2020

Time 4:02pm