CHAPTER 178

AN ACT SB 485

Relating to suicide; amending ORS 418.735.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 418.735 is amended to read:
418.735. (1) As used in this section, “local mental health authority” has the meaning given that term in ORS 430.630.

(2) The Oregon Health Authority shall develop a plan for communication among local mental health authorities and local systems to improve notifications and information-sharing when a death that is suspected to be a suicide involves an individual who is 24 years of age or younger. The plan must address community suicide response and post-intervention efforts to address loss and the potential of contagion risk. The Oregon Health Authority shall collaborate with the following entities [may be involved] in developing and implementing the plan:

(a) Public school districts;
(b) Public universities listed in ORS 352.002, if the death involves an individual who is 24 years of age or younger;
(c) Private post-secondary institutions of education, if the death involves an individual who is 24 years of age or younger; and
(d) Any facility that provides services or resources to runaway or homeless youth.

(3) Within seven days after a death that is suspected to be a suicide of an individual 24 years of age or younger, the local mental health authority in the area where the suicide occurred and any public school district, public university listed in ORS 352.002 or private post-secondary institution of education the individual was attending at the time of the individual’s death shall inform the Oregon Health Authority, in a manner and in a format to be determined by the authority, of activities implemented to support local entities and individuals affected by the suicide and to prevent the risk of contagion. The authority shall serve as a resource to the local mental health authority and any public school district, public university listed in ORS 352.002 or private post-secondary institution of education the individual was attending at the time of the individual’s death as needed by the community.

Approved by the Governor May 24, 2019
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