

Introduced by Senator Portantino
(Coauthors: Senators Atkins, Beall, Lara, Leyva, Newman, and Wiener)

February 1, 2018

An act to amend the heading of Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 215) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 1 of, and to add Section 216 to, the Education Code, relating to pupil and student health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 972, as introduced, Portantino. Pupil and student health: identification cards: suicide prevention hotline telephone number.

Existing law, the California Suicide Prevention Act of 2000, authorizes the State Department of Health Care Services to establish and implement a suicide prevention, education, and gatekeeper program to reduce the severity, duration, and incidence of suicidal behaviors. The act authorizes the State Department of Health Care Services to contract with an outside agency to establish and implement a targeted public awareness and education campaign on suicide prevention and treatment, and requires that target populations include junior high and high school students.

Existing law requires the governing board or body of a county office of education, school district, state special school, or charter school that serves pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to, before the beginning of the 2017–18 school year, adopt a policy on pupil suicide prevention, as specified, that specifically addresses the needs of high-risk groups. Existing law requires the Instructional Quality Commission to consider developing, and recommending for adoption by the State Board of Education, a distinct category on mental health instruction to educate pupils about all aspects of mental health, including, among other things,

depression and suicidal thoughts and behaviors, as specified. Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to send a notice to each middle school, junior high school, and high school that encourages each school to provide suicide prevention training to each school counselor, provides information on the availability of certain suicide prevention training curriculum, informs schools about certain suicide prevention training, and describes how a school might retain those services.

This bill would require a public school, including a charter school, or a private school that serves pupils in any of grades 7 to 12, inclusive, that issues pupil identification cards to have printed on the back of the pupil identification cards the telephone number for a suicide prevention hotline. The bill would require a public or private institution of higher education that issues student identification cards to have printed on the back of the student identification cards the telephone number for a suicide prevention hotline. Because the bill would impose a new duty on campuses of the California Community Colleges, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The heading of Article 2.5 (commencing with
- 2 Section 215) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 1 of the
- 3 Education Code is amended to read:
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- 5 Article 2.5. Pupil *and Student* Suicide Prevention Policies
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- 7 SEC. 2. Section 216 is added to the Education Code, to read:
- 8 216. (a) Commencing July 1, 2019, a public school, including
- 9 a charter school, or a private school that serves pupils in any of
- 10 grades 7 to 12, inclusive, that issues pupil identification cards shall

1 have printed on the back of the pupil identification cards the
2 telephone number for a suicide prevention hotline.

3 (b) Commencing July 1, 2019, a public or private institution of
4 higher education that issues student identification cards shall have
5 printed on the back of the student identification cards the telephone
6 number for a suicide prevention hotline.

7 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
8 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
9 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
10 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
11 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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