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SENATE BILL 172

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018**

INTRODUCED BY

Gerald Ortiz y Pino

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; REQUIRING SUICIDE AWARENESS AND  
PREVENTION TRAINING FOR CERTAIN SCHOOL PERSONNEL IN PUBLIC AND  
PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is  
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING  
FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL PERSONNEL.--

A. The department shall adopt rules on or before  
January 1, 2019 requiring public and private school personnel,  
including teachers, educational assistants, guidance  
counselors, coaches, principals and other administrators,  
nurses and social workers, to receive at least one hour of  
suicide awareness and prevention training each year for

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1 elementary school faculty and staff and two hours of suicide  
2 awareness and prevention training each year for middle and high  
3 school faculty and staff. This training shall be provided  
4 within the framework of existing in-service training, including  
5 online training and train-the-trainer programs, provided by the  
6 department, a school district or a private school.

7 B. The department, in consultation with the  
8 department of health, a statewide suicide prevention coalition,  
9 other stakeholders and suicide prevention experts, shall  
10 develop a list of approved training courses and materials to  
11 fulfill the requirements of this section. The courses and  
12 materials shall include training on how to identify appropriate  
13 mental health services both within each school and within the  
14 larger community and when and how to refer youth and their  
15 families to those services. These courses and materials may  
16 include programs or practices that can be completed by  
17 independent review of suitable suicide prevention materials by  
18 school personnel offered online or approved by the federal  
19 substance abuse and mental health services administration, the  
20 suicide prevention resource center's best practice registry or  
21 other evidence-informed gatekeeper programs approved by the  
22 department."