



# Legislative Council Staff

## Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 11/10/2016

### Bill Number

**Senate Bill 16-147**

### Sponsors

***Senators Newell & Martinez  
Humenik  
Representative Pettersen***

### Short Title

***Suicide Prevention Through  
Zero Suicide Model***

### Research Analyst

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### Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill. The bill became effective June 10, 2016.

### Summary

The bill establishes the Colorado suicide prevention plan within the Office of Suicide Prevention in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The bill encourages the Office of Suicide Prevention, the Suicide Prevention Commission, the Office of Behavioral Health in the Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) to work with various stakeholders to develop and implement a plan to improve training on:

- identification of indicators of suicidal thoughts and behavior;
- emergency procedures for 72-hour mental health holds;
- federal health care privacy laws; and
- risk assessment and management.

The bill encourages the following groups and organizations to contribute to and implement the plan on or before July 1, 2019:

- community mental health centers;
- hospitals;

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- the state crisis services system;
- emergency medical services professionals and responders;
- regional health and behavioral health systems;
- substance abuse treatment systems;
- physical and mental health clinics in educational institutions;
- criminal justice systems; and
- advocacy groups, hospital chaplains, and faith-based organizations.

The bill requires CDPHE to include a summary of its activities under the plan in a report submitted to the Office of Behavioral Health and annually to the General Assembly. CDPHE may accept gifts, grants, and donations for the direct and indirect costs of implementing the plan, all of which must be transmitted to the Suicide Prevention Coordination Cash Fund.

## Background

The Office of Suicide Prevention serves as a clearinghouse for the latest national trends, risk factors, and prevention plans to help recognize and respond to people who are at risk of suicide. The Suicide Prevention Commission serves as an advisor to the Office of Suicide Prevention and as the interface between the public and private sectors in establishing statewide suicide prevention priorities that are data-driven and evidence-based. The 26 members of the commission are appointed by the Executive Director of CDPHE.

## Senate Action

***Senate Health and Human Services (March 10, 2016).*** At the hearing, representatives of CDPHE, Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado, Suicide Prevention Commission of Colorado, Colorado Youth Advisory Council, Centennial Mental Health Center, Arapahoe/Douglas Mental Health Network, Community Health Center, Mental Health Colorado, Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council, Mental Health America of Colorado, DHS, Colorado Parent Teacher Association, and a member of the public testified in support of the bill. After public testimony on the bill, the bill was laid over for action only.

***Senate Health and Human Services (March 24, 2016).*** The committee hearing on Senate Bill 16-147 was held on March 10, 2016, and the bill was laid over for action only. The committee adopted amendment L.003 and referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

Amendment L.003 was a strike everything below the enacting clause amendment. The amendment changed the name of the model from zero suicide model to Colorado Suicide Prevention Model. The amendment added criminal justice agencies, advocacy groups, and faith-based organizations to the list of stakeholders that are encourage to develop and utilize the Colorado suicide prevention model, and added language encouraging the various stakeholder groups to develop training criteria on 72-hour mental health hold procedures, and patient privacy and procedures related to the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1995.

***Senate second reading (April 4, 2016).*** The Senate adopted the Senate Health and Human Services Committee report and Amendment No.2.

Amendment No.2 added language to the legislative declaration regarding the Suicide Prevention Commission's recommendations regarding suicide prevention changed terminology from the Colorado Suicide Prevention model to the Colorado suicide prevention plan. The amendment added emergency medical services professionals, hospital chaplains, and insurers to the list of those who are encouraged to contribute to and implement the Colorado plan. The Senate passed the bill on second reading as amended.

**Senate third reading (April 5, 2016).** The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

## House Action

**House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee (April 28, 2016).** At the hearing, representatives of CDPHE, Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado, Colorado Youth Advisory Council, United Veterans Committee of Colorado, Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council, Mental Health Colorado, DHS, Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado, and three members of the public testified in support of the bill. The Committee referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

**House second reading (May 2, 2016).** The House passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

**House third reading (May 4, 2016).** The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

## Relevant Research

- Office of Suicide Prevention Annual Report Suicide Prevention in Colorado 2014-2015. <http://tinyurl.com/gtzfnjj>

