

**A-Engrossed**  
**Senate Bill 918**

Ordered by the House May 23  
Including House Amendments dated May 23

Sponsored by Senators GELSER, WAGNER; Representative KENY-GUYER

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Directs local mental health authority to notify local systems having contact with deceased individual 24 years of age or younger of suspected suicide if local mental health authority received notice of death from third party.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to local mental health authority communications regarding suicides; amending ORS 418.735.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 418.735 is amended to read:

5 418.735. (1) As used in this section, "local mental health authority" has the meaning given that  
6 term in ORS 430.630.

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

13 (a) Public school districts;

14 (b) Public universities listed in ORS 352.002, if the death involves an individual who is 24 years  
15 of age or younger;

16 (c) Private post-secondary institutions of education, if the death involves an individual who is  
17 24 years of age or younger; and

18 (d) Any facility that provides services or resources to runaway or homeless youth.

19 (3) Within seven days after a death that is suspected to be a suicide of an individual 24 years  
20 of age or younger, the local mental health authority in the area where the suicide occurred shall  
21 inform the Oregon Health Authority, in a manner and in a format to be determined by the authority,  
22 of activities implemented to support local entities and individuals affected by the suicide and to  
23 prevent the risk of contagion. The authority shall serve as a resource to the local mental health  
24 authority as needed by the community.

25 **(4)(a) If a local mental health authority receives a third-party notification of a death that**  
26 **is suspected to be a suicide of an individual 24 years of age or younger, the local mental**  
27 **health authority shall provide notice of the death to the following local systems that had**  
28 **contact with the deceased individual:**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       **(A) The principal or superintendent of relevant area public schools, the principal of rel-**  
2 **evant area private schools or any public university listed in ORS 352.002 or private post-**  
3 **secondary institution of education the individual was attending at the time of the individual's**  
4 **death;**

5       **(B) The juvenile department;**

6       **(C) Community developmental disabilities programs;**

7       **(D) Local child welfare agencies;**

8       **(E) Local substance use disorder programs; or**

9       **(F) Any other organization or person identified by the local mental health authority as**  
10 **necessary to receive notice to preserve the public health.**

11       **(b) The notification in paragraph (a) of this subsection must contain the following infor-**  
12 **mation regarding the deceased individual to enable the local systems to deploy effective**  
13 **post-intervention efforts:**

14       **(A) The name of the deceased individual;**

15       **(B) The birth date of the deceased individual;**

16       **(C) The date of death of the deceased individual; and**

17       **(D) Any other information that the local mental health authority determines is necessary**  
18 **to preserve the public health and that is not otherwise protected from public disclosure by**  
19 **state or federal law.**

20       **(c) As used in this subsection, "third-party notification" means notification from a source**  
21 **other than a patient in a program administered by the local mental health authority during**  
22 **the patient's treatment.**

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