

HOUSE BILL No. 6252

June 12, 2018, Introduced by Reps. Runestad, Brann, Tedder, Dianda, Peterson, Cochran, Cambensy, Lucido, Howrylak, Hertel, Hoadley and Greimel and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

A bill to create a suicide prevention commission within the department of health and human services and to prescribe its powers and duties; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state officers and entities.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2 (a) "Commission" means the suicide prevention commission
3 created in section 3.

4 (b) "Department" means the department of health and human
5 services.

6 (c) "Director" means the director of the department.

7 Sec. 3. (1) The suicide prevention commission is created
8 within the department.

9 (2) The commission consists of the following 19 members,

1 appointed as follows:

2 (a) Three members appointed by the governor, at least 1 of
3 whom is a suicide prevention researcher from a university located
4 in this state who is selected from a list of nominees submitted by
5 the Michigan Association of State Universities and at least 1 of
6 whom is a student studying or working in the area of suicide
7 prevention who is selected from a list of nominees submitted by the
8 Michigan Association of State Universities.

9 (b) One member appointed by the speaker of the house of
10 representatives.

11 (c) One member appointed by the senate majority leader.

12 (d) Seven members appointed by the director, at least 5 of
13 whom are selected as follows:

14 (i) One member from a suicide crisis hotline or suicide
15 prevention services program who is selected from a list of nominees
16 submitted by the Michigan Association of Counties.

17 (ii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
18 submitted by the Michigan chapter of the National Association of
19 Social Workers.

20 (iii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
21 submitted by the Michigan Psychological Association.

22 (iv) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
23 submitted by the Michigan Nurses Association.

24 (v) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
25 submitted by the Michigan Health and Hospital Association.

26 (e) Four members selected by the director of the department of
27 state police, as follows:

1 (i) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
2 submitted by the Michigan Sheriffs' Association.

3 (ii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
4 submitted by the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police.

5 (iii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
6 submitted by the Police Officers Association of Michigan.

7 (iv) One member who is selected from a list of nominees
8 submitted by the Michigan chapter of the Michigan State Police
9 Troopers Association.

10 (f) One member who is selected by the children's ombudsman.

11 (g) One member who is selected by the director of the
12 department of military and veterans affairs.

13 (h) One member who is selected by the Michigan veterans'
14 facility ombudsman.

15 (3) The members first appointed to the commission must be
16 appointed within 90 days after the effective date of this act.

17 (4) Members of the commission shall serve for terms of 4 years
18 or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later, except that
19 of the members first appointed, 3 shall serve for 1 year, 3 shall
20 serve for 2 years, 3 shall serve for 3 years, and 10 shall serve
21 for 4 years.

22 (5) If a vacancy occurs on the commission, the director shall
23 make an appointment for the unexpired term.

24 (6) The director may remove a member of the commission for
25 incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or
26 nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause.

27 (7) The director shall call the first meeting of the

1 commission. At the first meeting, the commission shall elect from
2 among its members a chairperson and other officers as it considers
3 necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the commission
4 shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of
5 the chairperson or if requested by 5 or more members.

6 (8) A majority of the members of the commission constitute a
7 quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the
8 commission. A majority of the members present and serving are
9 required for official action for the commission.

10 (9) The business that the commission may perform must be
11 conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance
12 with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

13 (10) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or
14 retained by the commission in the performance of an official
15 function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442,
16 MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

17 (11) Members of the commission shall serve without
18 compensation. However, members of the commission may be reimbursed
19 for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance
20 of their official duties as members of the commission.

21 Sec. 5. The commission shall do all of the following:

22 (a) Work with state departments and agencies and nonprofit
23 organizations on studying the causes and possible underlying
24 factors of suicide in this state. The study must focus on
25 demographics showing the highest suicide rates in this state from
26 January 1, 2007 to January 1, 2017, and the highest growth in
27 suicide rates during the time period described in this subdivision.

1 (b) By January 1, 2019, prepare and present a report of its
2 findings to the legislature. The report must include the possible
3 causes for the increase in suicide rates and recommendations for
4 reducing risk factors among the demographics described in
5 subdivision (a) and any other information the commission considers
6 relevant.

7 (c) Act as an advisory body to the department.

8 (d) Annually review and update any recommendations made under
9 this act and, if any of the commission's recommendations are
10 implemented, monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

11 Sec. 7. The commission may, through its chairperson, research
12 policy recommendations from relevant sources and policy initiatives
13 from other states in order to make recommendations to the governor
14 and to the chairpersons of the house and senate standing committees
15 on health policy on initiatives to reduce suicide rates among the
16 demographics described in section 5.

17 Sec. 9. The department shall furnish administrative services
18 to the commission and provide staff necessary to allow the proper
19 exercise of the powers and duties of the commission. The department
20 shall provide adequate office space to the commission.

21 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect 90 days after the
22 date it is enacted into law.