

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 228**

A bill to create a suicide prevention commission within the legislative council 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) "Council" means the legislative council established under  
5 section 15 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

6           (c) "Executive committee" means the executive committee  
7 described in section 5.

8           Sec. 3. (1) The suicide prevention commission is created



1 within the council.

2 (2) The commission consists of the following 25 members:

3 (a) Eleven members appointed by the governor as follows:

4 (i) One member who is a researcher with an advanced degree from  
5 a university that is located in this state who is selected from a  
6 list of nominees submitted by the Michigan Association of State  
7 Universities.

8 (ii) An undergraduate or graduate student who is studying or  
9 working in the area of suicide prevention who is selected from a  
10 list of nominees submitted by the American Foundation for Suicide  
11 Prevention.

12 (iii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees  
13 submitted by the Michigan Association of Intermediate School  
14 Administrators and who is trained in the "Michigan Model for  
15 Health" curriculum.

16 (iv) One member who is selected from a list of nominees  
17 submitted by the School-Community Health Alliance of Michigan.

18 (v) One member who represents health plans who is selected  
19 from lists of nominees submitted by the Michigan Association of  
20 Health Plans and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

21 (vi) One member who has knowledge or expertise in retiree or  
22 vulnerable adult mental health issues who is selected from a list  
23 of nominees submitted by the Fraternal Order of Police.

24 (vii) One member who is a suicide loss survivor who is selected  
25 from a list of nominees submitted by the Michigan Sheriffs'  
26 Association.

27 (viii) One member who has experience in suicide prevention who  
28 is selected from a list of nominees submitted by the Michigan  
29 Association of Chiefs of Police.



1 (ix) One member who is experienced in crisis intervention for  
2 suicide response who is selected from a list of nominees submitted  
3 by the Police Officers Association of Michigan.

4 (x) One member who is selected from a list of nominees  
5 submitted by the Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs.

6 (xi) One member who is selected from a list of nominees  
7 submitted by the Michigan Corrections Organization.

8 (b) The Michigan veterans' facility ombudsman or his or her  
9 designee.

10 (c) One member who is appointed by the director of the  
11 department of state police with expertise in substance use  
12 disorders.

13 (d) Two members who are appointed by the speaker of the house  
14 of representatives, 1 of whom represents a faith-based organization  
15 and 1 who is selected from a list of nominees submitted by the  
16 Michigan Professional Firefighters Union.

17 (e) Two members who are appointed by the senate majority  
18 leader, at least 1 of whom has expertise in suicide prevention from  
19 a community mental health services program that holds a grant from  
20 the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

21 (f) Eight members appointed by the director of the department  
22 of health and human services, including 7 appointed as follows:

23 (i) One member who represents a substance use disorder  
24 treatment provider who is selected from a list of nominees  
25 submitted by the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan.

26 (ii) One member who is selected from a list of nominees  
27 submitted by the Michigan Psychological Association.

28 (iii) One member who is a member of the National Alliance on  
29 Mental Illness who is selected from a list of nominees submitted by



1 the Michigan Psychiatric Society.

2 (iv) One member who is selected from a list of nominees  
3 submitted by the Michigan Primary Care Association.

4 (v) One member who is selected from a list of nominees  
5 submitted by the Michigan Health and Hospital Association and who  
6 meets both of the following requirements:

7 (A) Is a physician licensed to engage in the practice of  
8 medicine or the practice of osteopathic medicine and surgery.

9 (B) Has expertise in neurology.

10 (vi) An individual who is in charge of a local health  
11 department or his or her designee.

12 (vii) One member who is a suicide attempt survivor.

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

15 (4) Members of the commission shall serve for 1 term of 4  
16 years or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later.

17 (5) A vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same  
18 manner as the original appointment. A member appointed to fill a  
19 vacancy shall be appointed for the balance of the unexpired term.

20 (6) The chairperson of the commission may remove a member of  
21 the commission for incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance,  
22 misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause, on  
23 a motion that is approved by a majority of the members of the  
24 commission.

25 (7) The council administrator shall call the first meeting of  
26 the commission. At the first meeting, the commission shall elect  
27 from among its members a chairperson; and other officers as it  
28 considers necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the  
29 commission shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the



1 call of the chairperson or if requested by 5 or more members.

2 (8) A majority of the members of the commission constitute a  
3 quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the  
4 commission. A majority of the members present and serving are  
5 required for official action of the commission.

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

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

13 (11) Members of the commission shall serve without  
14 compensation. However, members of the commission may be reimbursed  
15 for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance  
16 of their official duties as members of the commission.

17 Sec. 5. (1) The commission shall do all of the following:

18 (a) Work with state departments and agencies and nonprofit  
19 organizations on researching the causes and possible underlying  
20 factors of suicide in this state. The research must focus on  
21 demographics showing the highest suicide rates in this state in the  
22 decade immediately preceding the effective date of this act, and  
23 the highest growth in suicide rates during the time period  
24 described in this subdivision. In determining the demographics, the  
25 commission shall consider, at a minimum, rural and urban areas,  
26 race, sex, occupation, age, and socioeconomic status.

27 (b) By 6 months after the effective date of this act, prepare  
28 and present a preliminary report of its research and findings to  
29 the legislature. The report must include identified causes for the



1 increase in suicide rates among the demographics described in  
2 subdivision (a) and any other information the commission considers  
3 relevant.

4 (c) By 1 year after the effective date of this act, and each  
5 year thereafter, prepare and present to the legislature an updated  
6 version of the report described in subdivision (b). The updated  
7 version of the report must include recommendations for reducing  
8 risk factors among the demographics described in subdivision (a)  
9 and contain a list of evidence-based programs for suicide  
10 prevention in this state with successful outcomes.

11 (d) Annually review and update any recommendations made under  
12 this act and, if any of the commission's recommendations are  
13 implemented, provide a process for ongoing monitoring of the  
14 implementation of the recommendations.

15 (e) Provide recommendations for a process for continued state  
16 coordination on suicide data collection, suicide prevention  
17 programs, and a coordinated state approach to the prevention of  
18 suicide to continue after this act no longer applies.

19 (2) At the first meeting of the commission, the commission  
20 shall establish a 7-member executive committee that consists of all  
21 of the following:

22 (a) Two members elected by the commission from among its  
23 members.

24 (b) The member appointed to the commission by the governor  
25 under section 3(2) (a) (i).

26 (c) The Michigan veterans' facility ombudsman or his or her  
27 designee.

28 (d) The member appointed to the commission by the director of  
29 the department of state police under section 3(2) (c).



1 (e) One member selected by the director of the department of  
2 health and human services from the commission members appointed  
3 under section 3(2)(f).

4 (f) One member selected by the senate majority leader from the  
5 commission members appointed under section 3(2)(e).

6 (3) The executive committee shall do all of the following:

7 (a) Oversee the compilation of data and available resources in  
8 coordination with universities in this state.

9 (b) Set timelines and tasks for the completion of the  
10 commission's work by December 30, 2024.

11 (4) The commission shall also establish subcommittees that may  
12 consist of individuals who are not members of the commission,  
13 including, but not limited to, experts in matters of interest to  
14 the commission, including the demographics described in subsection  
15 (1)(a).

16 Sec. 7. The commission may, through its executive committee,  
17 research policy recommendations from relevant sources and policy  
18 initiatives from other states in order to make recommendations to  
19 the governor and to the chairpersons of the house and senate  
20 standing committees on health policy and the judiciary on  
21 initiatives to reduce suicide rates among the demographics  
22 described in section 5.

23 Sec. 9. The council shall furnish clerking services to the  
24 commission.

25 Sec. 11. This act does not apply beginning December 31, 2024.

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

