

HOUSE BILL No. 4375

February 23, 2005, Introduced by Reps. Ward, Accavitti, Anderson, Sak, Ball, Sheltroun, Moore, Bieda, Espinoza, Green, Rocca, Stahl, Gleason, Kathleen Law, Hopgood, Condino and Leland and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
(MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1171.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 SEC. 1171. (1) THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF
2 DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY IS ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE AGE-
3 APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTION FOR PUPILS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR
4 SCHOOL PERSONNEL CONCERNING THE WARNING SIGNS AND RISK FACTORS FOR
5 SUICIDE AND DEPRESSION. THE INSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL
6 DEVELOPMENT SHALL BE DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING GOALS:

7 (A) TO PREVENT BOTH FATAL AND NONFATAL SUICIDE BEHAVIORS AMONG
8 YOUTH.

9 (B) TO INCREASE PUPIL AWARENESS OF THE WARNING SIGNS AND RISK

1 FACTORS FOR SUICIDE AND DEPRESSION.

2 (C) TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE PREVENTION SERVICES FOR
3 VULNERABLE YOUTH GROUPS.

4 (2) THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A
5 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY IS ENCOURAGED TO WORK WITH SCHOOL PERSONNEL
6 AND LOCAL OR STATE ORGANIZATIONS AND RESOURCES SPECIALIZING IN
7 SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS.

8 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP OR SELECT MODEL PROGRAMS AND
9 MATERIALS ON SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE
10 FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION AND SHALL MAKE THOSE MODEL
11 PROGRAMS AND MATERIALS AVAILABLE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC
12 SCHOOL ACADEMIES.

13 (4) IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY PROVIDES
14 INSTRUCTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1), THE BOARD OF THE SCHOOL
15 DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL
16 NOTIFY THE PARENTS OF THE AFFECTED PUPILS ABOUT THE INSTRUCTION
17 USING THE COMMUNICATION METHOD THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL
18 ACADEMY NORMALLY USES FOR REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARENTS.