

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 4, 2020

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 20, 2020

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2020

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2019–20 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2112**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Ramos**

**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Arambula)**

**(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Arambula and Berman)**

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aguiar-Curry, Bigelow, Burke, Carrillo, Flora, Eduardo Garcia, Quirk-Silva, Rodriguez, Waldron, Wicks, and Wood)**

**(Coauthors: Senators Beall and Chang)**

February 6, 2020

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An act to add Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 131300) to Part 1 of Division 112 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to suicide prevention.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2112, as amended, Ramos. Suicide prevention.

Existing law establishes the State Department of Public Health within the California Health and Human Services Agency.

This bill would *authorize the State Department of Public Health to establish the Office of Suicide Prevention within the State Department of Public Health, and make the office responsible for, within the department and would specify authorized responsibilities of the office if established, including*, among other things, providing strategic guidance to statewide and regional partners regarding best practices on suicide prevention and reporting to the Legislature on progress to reduce

rates of suicide. The bill would authorize the office to apply for and use federal grants.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of  
2 the following:

3 (a) Suicide is a public health crisis that has warranted response  
4 from the state.

5 (b) Suicide risk is a lifespan issue, with a variety of groups at  
6 significant risk of death by suicide. The federal Centers for Disease  
7 Control and Prevention has identified groups with the greatest risk,  
8 including youth, older adults, veterans and LGBTQ people.

9 (c) Suicide risk is especially acute for young people. Suicide is  
10 the second leading cause of death for youth from 10 to 24 years  
11 of age, inclusive.

12 (d) The state has sought to address the causes of suicide,  
13 including research and development of a statewide strategic plan  
14 on suicide prevention. The state has further sought to address the  
15 causes of suicide through specific suicide prevention policies and  
16 programs.

17 (e) The state has an obligation to focus resources on combating  
18 the crisis of suicide.

19 SEC. 2. Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 131300) is added  
20 to Part 1 of Division 112 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

21

22 CHAPTER 3. THE OFFICE OF SUICIDE PREVENTION

23

24 131300. (a) *The State Department of Public Health is hereby*  
25 *authorized to establish the Office of Suicide Prevention* ~~is hereby~~  
26 ~~established within the State Department of Public Health. The~~  
27 ~~office shall be responsible for in the department pursuant to this~~  
28 *chapter. The responsibilities of the office, if established, may*  
29 *include all of the following:*

30 (1) Providing strategic guidance to statewide and regional  
31 partners regarding best practices on suicide prevention.

32 (2) Conducting state level evaluation of regional and statewide  
33 suicide prevention policies and practices, including other states'

1 suicide prevention policies, and including specific metrics and  
2 domains as appropriate.

3 (3) Using data to identify opportunities to reduce suicide,  
4 including utilizing data elements documenting interrupted or  
5 aborted suicide attempts and crisis service interventions.

6 (4) Marshaling the insights and energy of medical professionals  
7 with mental health experience or expertise, scientists, and other  
8 academic experts, as well as public health experts, public servants,  
9 and everyday Californians to address the crisis of suicide.

10 (5) Disseminating information to advance statewide progress,  
11 including coordinated, targeted, and culturally appropriate  
12 campaigns to reach populations with high rates of suicide.

13 (6) Reporting to the Legislature on progress to reduce rates of  
14 suicide.

15 (b) ~~The office shall~~ *If established, the office may* focus resources  
16 on groups with the highest risk, including youth, Native American  
17 youth, older adults, veterans, and LGBTQ people.

18 131305. ~~The~~ *If established, the* Office of Suicide Prevention  
19 may share and receive data from state entities with data relevant  
20 to the responsibilities and objectives of the office.

21 131310. ~~The~~ *If established, the* Office of Suicide Prevention  
22 may apply for and utilize federal grants.