

E2SHB 2793 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 03/01/2016

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that: Washington's
4 suicide rate is fourteen percent higher than the national average; on
5 average, two young people between the ages of ten and twenty-four die
6 by suicide each week; almost a quarter of those who die by suicide
7 are veterans; and many of the state's rural and tribal communities
8 have the highest suicide rates. The legislature further finds that
9 when suicide occurs, it has devastating consequences for communities
10 and schools, yet, according to the United States surgeon general,
11 suicide is the nation's most preventable form of death. The
12 legislature further finds that one of the most immediate ways to
13 reduce the tragedy of suicide is through suicide awareness and
14 prevention education coupled with safe storage of lethal means
15 commonly used in suicides, such as firearms and prescription
16 medications. The legislature further finds that encouraging firearms
17 dealers to voluntarily participate in suicide awareness and
18 prevention education programs and provide certain safe storage
19 devices at cost is an important step in creating safer homes and
20 reducing suicide deaths in the state.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) Subject to the availability of
22 amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, a safe homes task
23 force is established to raise public awareness and increase suicide
24 prevention education among new partners who are in key positions to
25 help reduce suicide. The task force shall be administered and staffed
26 by the University of Washington school of social work.

27 (b) The safe homes task force shall consist of the members
28 comprised of a suicide prevention and firearms subcommittee and a
29 suicide prevention and pharmacy subcommittee, as follows:

30 (i) The suicide prevention and firearms subcommittee shall
31 consist of the following members and be cochaired by the University

1 of Washington school of social work and a member identified in
2 (b)(i)(A) of this subsection (1):

3 (A) A representative of the national rifle association and a
4 representative of the second amendment foundation;

5 (B) Two representatives of suicide prevention organizations,
6 selected by the cochairs of the subcommittee;

7 (C) Two representatives of the firearms industry, selected by the
8 cochairs of the subcommittee;

9 (D) Two individuals who are suicide attempt survivors or who have
10 experienced suicide loss, selected by the cochairs of the
11 subcommittee;

12 (E) Two representatives of law enforcement agencies, selected by
13 the cochairs of the subcommittee;

14 (F) One representative from the department of health;

15 (G) One representative from the department of veterans affairs,
16 and one other individual representing veterans to be selected by the
17 cochairs of the subcommittee; and

18 (H) No more than two other interested parties, selected by the
19 cochairs of the subcommittee.

20 (ii) The suicide prevention and pharmacy subcommittee shall
21 consist of the following members and be cochaired by the University
22 of Washington school of social work and a member identified in
23 (b)(ii)(A) of this subsection (1):

24 (A) Two representatives of the Washington state pharmacy
25 association;

26 (B) Two representatives of retailers who operate pharmacies,
27 selected by the cochairs of the subcommittee;

28 (C) One faculty member from the University of Washington school
29 of pharmacy and one faculty member from the Washington State
30 University school of pharmacy;

31 (D) One representative of the department of health;

32 (E) One representative of the pharmacy quality assurance
33 commission;

34 (F) Two representatives of the Washington state poison control
35 center;

36 (G) One representative of the department of veterans affairs, and
37 one other individual representing veterans to be selected by the
38 cochairs of the subcommittee; and

39 (H) No more than two other interested parties, selected by the
40 cochairs of the subcommittee.

1 (c) The University of Washington school of social work shall
2 convene the initial meeting of the task force.

3 (2) The task force shall:

4 (a) Develop and prepare to disseminate online trainings on
5 suicide awareness and prevention for firearms dealers and their
6 employees and firearm range owners and their employees;

7 (b) In consultation with the department of fish and wildlife,
8 review the firearm safety pamphlet produced by the department of fish
9 and wildlife under RCW 9.41.310 and, by January 1, 2017, recommend
10 changes to the pamphlet to incorporate information on suicide
11 awareness and prevention;

12 (c) Develop suicide awareness and prevention messages for posters
13 and brochures that are tailored to be effective for firearms owners
14 for distribution to firearms dealers and firearm ranges;

15 (d) Develop suicide awareness and prevention messages for posters
16 and brochures for distribution to pharmacies;

17 (e) In consultation with the department of fish and wildlife,
18 develop strategies for creating and disseminating suicide awareness
19 and prevention information for hunting safety classes, including
20 messages to parents that can be shared during online registration, in
21 either follow up electronic mail communications, or in writing, or
22 both;

23 (f) Develop suicide awareness and prevention messages for
24 training for the schools of pharmacy and provide input on trainings
25 being developed for community pharmacists;

26 (g) Provide input to the department of health on the
27 implementation of the safe homes project established in section 3 of
28 this act;

29 (h) Create a web site that will be a clearinghouse for the newly
30 created suicide awareness and prevention materials developed by the
31 task force; and

32 (i) Conduct a survey of firearms dealers and firearms ranges in
33 the state to determine the types and amounts of incentives that would
34 be effective in encouraging those entities to participate in the safe
35 homes project created in section 3 of this act;

36 (j) Create, implement, and evaluate a suicide awareness and
37 prevention pilot program in two counties, one rural and one urban,
38 that have high suicide rates. The pilot program shall include:

1 (i) Developing and directing advocacy efforts with firearms
2 dealers to pair suicide awareness and prevention training with
3 distribution of safe storage devices;

4 (ii) Developing and directing advocacy efforts with pharmacies to
5 pair suicide awareness and prevention training with distribution of
6 medication disposal kits and safe storage devices;

7 (iii) Training health care providers on suicide awareness and
8 prevention, paired with distribution of medication disposal kits and
9 safe storage devices; and

10 (iv) Training local law enforcement officers on suicide awareness
11 and prevention, paired with distribution of medication disposal kits
12 and safe storage devices.

13 (3) The task force shall consult with the department of health to
14 develop timelines for the completion of the necessary tasks
15 identified in subsection (2) of this section so that the department
16 of health is able to implement the safe homes project under section 3
17 of this act by January 1, 2018.

18 (4) Beginning December 1, 2016, the task force shall annually
19 report to the legislature on the status of its work. The task force
20 shall submit a final report by December 1, 2019, that includes the
21 findings of the suicide awareness and prevention pilot program
22 evaluation under subsection (2) of this section and recommendations
23 on possible continuation of the program. The task force shall submit
24 its reports in accordance with RCW 43.01.036.

25 (5) This section expires July 1, 2020.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
29 specific purpose, the department shall develop and administer a safe
30 homes project for firearms dealers and firearms ranges to encourage
31 voluntary participation in a program to implement suicide awareness
32 and prevention strategies.

33 (2) As part of the safe homes project, the department shall
34 certify a firearms dealer or firearms range that meets the
35 requirements of subsection (3) of this section as a safe homes
36 partner.

37 (3) The department, in consultation with the safe homes task
38 force created in section 2 of this act, shall develop criteria for

1 certification of a firearms dealer or firearms range as a safe homes
2 partner that include, at a minimum, the following requirements:

3 (a) Posting of suicide awareness and prevention posters,
4 developed by the safe homes task force, at the firearms dealer's or
5 firearms range's premises;

6 (b) Distribution of suicide awareness and prevention brochures,
7 developed by the safe homes task force, to firearms purchasers and
8 customers;

9 (c) Completion by the firearms dealer and employees, or firearms
10 range and employees, of an online suicide awareness and prevention
11 training developed by the safe homes task force; and

12 (d) Offering safe storage devices, in the form of a lock box or
13 life jacket, for sale at cost to firearms purchasers, or customers.

14 (4) The department shall:

15 (a) Provide technical assistance to firearms dealers and firearms
16 ranges that want to participate in the safe homes project;

17 (b) Track and report status updates of the program to the
18 legislature in accordance with RCW 43.01.036; and

19 (c) Conduct, or contract with local health departments to
20 conduct, random audits of businesses who participate in the safe
21 homes project to ensure compliance with the requirements of this
22 section.

23 (5) The department shall implement the safe homes project
24 beginning January 1, 2018.

25 (6) For the purposes of this section:

26 (a) "Firearms dealer" means a firearms dealer licensed under RCW
27 9.41.110; and

28 (b) "Firearms range" means an entity that operates an area or
29 facility designed for the safe discharge or other use of firearms for
30 sport, recreational, or competitive shooting or training purposes.

31 **Sec. 4.** RCW 9.41.310 and 1994 c 264 s 2 are each amended to read
32 as follows:

33 (1) After a public hearing, the department of fish and wildlife
34 shall publish a pamphlet on firearms safety and the legal limits of
35 the use of firearms. The pamphlet shall include current information
36 on firearms laws and regulations and state preemption of local
37 firearms laws. By July 1, 2017, the department of fish and wildlife
38 shall update the pamphlet to incorporate information on suicide

1 awareness and prevention as recommended by the safe homes task force
2 established in section 2 of this act.

3 (2) This pamphlet may be used in the department's hunter safety
4 education program and shall be provided to the department of
5 licensing for distribution to firearms dealers and persons authorized
6 to issue concealed pistol licenses. The department of fish and
7 wildlife shall reimburse the department of licensing for costs
8 associated with distribution of the pamphlet.

9 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.70.442 and 2015 c 249 s 1 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 (1)(a) Each of the following professionals certified or licensed
12 under Title 18 RCW shall, at least once every six years, complete
13 training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management that is
14 approved, in rule, by the relevant disciplining authority:

15 (i) An adviser or counselor certified under chapter 18.19 RCW;

16 (ii) A chemical dependency professional licensed under chapter
17 18.205 RCW;

18 (iii) A marriage and family therapist licensed under chapter
19 18.225 RCW;

20 (iv) A mental health counselor licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW;

21 (v) An occupational therapy practitioner licensed under chapter
22 18.59 RCW;

23 (vi) A psychologist licensed under chapter 18.83 RCW;

24 (vii) An advanced social worker or independent clinical social
25 worker licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW; and

26 (viii) A social worker associate—advanced or social worker
27 associate—independent clinical licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW.

28 (b) The requirements in (a) of this subsection apply to a person
29 holding a retired active license for one of the professions in (a) of
30 this subsection.

31 (c) The training required by this subsection must be at least six
32 hours in length, unless a disciplining authority has determined,
33 under subsection ~~((9))~~ (10)(b) of this section, that training that
34 includes only screening and referral elements is appropriate for the
35 profession in question, in which case the training must be at least
36 three hours in length.

37 (d) Beginning July 1, 2017, the training required by this
38 subsection must be on the model list developed under subsection (6)

1 of this section. Nothing in this subsection (1)(d) affects the
2 validity of training completed prior to July 1, 2017.

3 (2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a
4 professional listed in subsection (1)(a) of this section must
5 complete the first training required by this section by the end of
6 the first full continuing education reporting period after January 1,
7 2014, or during the first full continuing education reporting period
8 after initial licensure or certification, whichever occurs later.

9 (b) A professional listed in subsection (1)(a) of this section
10 applying for initial licensure may delay completion of the first
11 training required by this section for six years after initial
12 licensure if he or she can demonstrate successful completion of the
13 training required in subsection (1) of this section no more than six
14 years prior to the application for initial licensure.

15 (3) The hours spent completing training in suicide assessment,
16 treatment, and management under this section count toward meeting any
17 applicable continuing education or continuing competency requirements
18 for each profession.

19 (4)(a) A disciplining authority may, by rule, specify minimum
20 training and experience that is sufficient to exempt an individual
21 professional from the training requirements in subsections (1) and
22 (5) of this section. Nothing in this subsection (4)(a) allows a
23 disciplining authority to provide blanket exemptions to broad
24 categories or specialties within a profession.

25 (b) A disciplining authority may exempt a professional from the
26 training requirements of subsections (1) and (5) of this section if
27 the professional has only brief or limited patient contact.

28 (5)(a) (~~Beginning January 1, 2016,~~) Each of the following
29 professionals credentialed under Title 18 RCW shall complete a one-
30 time training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management that
31 is approved by the relevant disciplining authority:

32 (i) A chiropractor licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW;

33 (ii) A naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW;

34 (iii) A licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, or advanced
35 registered nurse practitioner, other than a certified registered
36 nurse anesthetist, licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW;

37 (iv) An osteopathic physician and surgeon licensed under chapter
38 18.57 RCW, other than a holder of a postgraduate osteopathic medicine
39 and surgery license issued under RCW 18.57.035;

1 (v) An osteopathic physician assistant licensed under chapter
2 18.57A RCW;

3 (vi) A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant
4 licensed under chapter 18.74 RCW;

5 (vii) A physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW, other than a
6 resident holding a limited license issued under RCW 18.71.095(3);

7 (viii) A physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW;
8 (~~and~~)

9 (ix) A pharmacist licensed under chapter 18.64 RCW; and

10 (x) A person holding a retired active license for one of the
11 professions listed in (a)(i) through (~~(viii)~~) (ix) of this
12 subsection.

13 (b)(i) A professional listed in (a)(i) through (viii) of this
14 subsection or a person holding a retired active license for one of
15 the professions listed in (a)(i) through (viii) of this subsection
16 must complete the one-time training by the end of the first full
17 continuing education reporting period after January 1, 2016, or
18 during the first full continuing education reporting period after
19 initial licensure, whichever is later. Training completed between
20 June 12, 2014, and January 1, 2016, that meets the requirements of
21 this section, other than the timing requirements of this subsection
22 (5)(b), must be accepted by the disciplining authority as meeting the
23 one-time training requirement of this subsection (5).

24 (ii) A licensed pharmacist or a person holding a retired active
25 pharmacist license must complete the one-time training by the end of
26 the first full continuing education reporting period after January 1,
27 2017, or during the first full continuing education reporting period
28 after initial licensure, whichever is later.

29 (c) The training required by this subsection must be at least six
30 hours in length, unless a disciplining authority has determined,
31 under subsection (~~(9)~~) (10)(b) of this section, that training that
32 includes only screening and referral elements is appropriate for the
33 profession in question, in which case the training must be at least
34 three hours in length.

35 (d) Beginning July 1, 2017, the training required by this
36 subsection must be on the model list developed under subsection (6)
37 of this section. Nothing in this subsection (5)(d) affects the
38 validity of training completed prior to July 1, 2017.

1 (6)(a) The secretary and the disciplining authorities shall work
2 collaboratively to develop a model list of training programs in
3 suicide assessment, treatment, and management.

4 (b) The secretary and the disciplining authorities shall update
5 the list at least once every two years.

6 (c) By June 30, 2016, the department shall adopt rules
7 establishing minimum standards for the training programs included on
8 the model list. The minimum standards must require that six-hour
9 trainings include content specific to veterans and the assessment of
10 issues related to imminent harm via lethal means or self-injurious
11 behaviors and that three-hour trainings for pharmacists include
12 content related to the assessment of issues related to imminent harm
13 via lethal means. When adopting the rules required under this
14 subsection (6)(c), the department shall:

15 (i) Consult with the affected disciplining authorities, public
16 and private institutions of higher education, educators, experts in
17 suicide assessment, treatment, and management, the Washington
18 department of veterans affairs, and affected professional
19 associations; and

20 (ii) Consider standards related to the best practices registry of
21 the American foundation for suicide prevention and the suicide
22 prevention resource center.

23 (d) Beginning January 1, 2017:

24 (i) The model list must include only trainings that meet the
25 minimum standards established in the rules adopted under (c) of this
26 subsection and any three-hour trainings that met the requirements of
27 this section on or before July 24, 2015;

28 (ii) The model list must include six-hour trainings in suicide
29 assessment, treatment, and management, and three-hour trainings that
30 include only screening and referral elements; and

31 (iii) A person or entity providing the training required in this
32 section may petition the department for inclusion on the model list.
33 The department shall add the training to the list only if the
34 department determines that the training meets the minimum standards
35 established in the rules adopted under (c) of this subsection.

36 (7) The department shall provide the health profession training
37 standards created in this section to the professional (~~education~~
38 ~~[educator]~~) educator standards board as a model in meeting the
39 requirements of RCW 28A.410.226 and provide technical assistance, as
40 requested, in the review and evaluation of educator training

1 programs. The educator training programs approved by the professional
2 educator standards board may be included in the department's model
3 list.

4 (8) Nothing in this section may be interpreted to expand or limit
5 the scope of practice of any profession regulated under chapter
6 18.130 RCW.

7 (9) The secretary and the disciplining authorities affected by
8 this section shall adopt any rules necessary to implement this
9 section.

10 (10) For purposes of this section:

11 (a) "Disciplining authority" has the same meaning as in RCW
12 18.130.020.

13 (b) "Training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management"
14 means empirically supported training approved by the appropriate
15 disciplining authority that contains the following elements: Suicide
16 assessment, including screening and referral, suicide treatment, and
17 suicide management. However, the disciplining authority may approve
18 training that includes only screening and referral elements if
19 appropriate for the profession in question based on the profession's
20 scope of practice. The board of occupational therapy may also approve
21 training that includes only screening and referral elements if
22 appropriate for occupational therapy practitioners based on practice
23 setting.

24 (11) A state or local government employee is exempt from the
25 requirements of this section if he or she receives a total of at
26 least six hours of training in suicide assessment, treatment, and
27 management from his or her employer every six years. For purposes of
28 this subsection, the training may be provided in one six-hour block
29 or may be spread among shorter training sessions at the employer's
30 discretion.

31 (12) An employee of a community mental health agency licensed
32 under chapter 71.24 RCW or a chemical dependency program certified
33 under chapter 70.96A RCW is exempt from the requirements of this
34 section if he or she receives a total of at least six hours of
35 training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management from his or
36 her employer every six years. For purposes of this subsection, the
37 training may be provided in one six-hour block or may be spread among
38 shorter training sessions at the employer's discretion.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The schools of pharmacy at the University
2 of Washington and Washington State University shall convene a work
3 group to jointly develop a curriculum on suicide assessment,
4 treatment, and management for pharmacy students. The curriculum must
5 include material on identifying at-risk patients and limiting access
6 to lethal means. When developing the curriculum, the schools shall
7 consult with experts on suicide assessment, treatment, and
8 management, and with the safe homes task force created in section 2
9 of this act on appropriate suicide awareness and prevention
10 messaging. The schools of pharmacy shall submit a progress report to
11 the governor and the relevant committees of the legislature by
12 December 1, 2016.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** By January 1, 2017, the department of
14 health and the pharmacy quality assurance commission shall jointly
15 develop written materials on suicide awareness and prevention that
16 pharmacies may post or distribute to customers. When developing the
17 written materials, the department and the commission shall consult
18 with experts on suicide assessment, treatment, and management, and
19 with the safe homes task force created in section 2 of this act on
20 appropriate suicide awareness and prevention messaging.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Section 5 of this act takes effect January
22 1, 2017.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Section 3 of this act expires January 1,
24 2024."

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25 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "homes;" strike the
26 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 9.41.310 and
27 43.70.442; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; creating new
28 sections; providing an effective date; and providing expiration
29 dates."

EFFECT: Provides that the establishment of the Task Force and its subcommittees and the creation of the Safe Homes Project are subject to appropriation.

--- END ---