

**ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2014**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB923**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday January 27, 2014  
**Committee On:** Education  
**Introducer:** McGill  
**One Liner:** Require training on suicide awareness and prevention for school personnel

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	7	Senators Kolowski, Haar, Davis, Cook, Avery, Seiler, Sullivan
<b>Nay:</b>		
<b>Absent:</b>	1	Senator Scheer
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>		

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**Proponents:**

Senator Amanda McGill  
Amorette Nelson  
Aileen Brady  
Marilyn Tallman  
Jeanne Pfeifer  
David Miers  
Vaughn Crowell  
Edison McDonald  
Jason Hayes

**Representing:**

Introducer  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention  
Community Alliance  
self  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention  
Nebraska State Suicide Prevention Coalition  
self  
self  
Nebraska State Education Association

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 923 would require, beginning during the 2014-15 school year, that all public school nurses, teachers, counselors, school psychologists, administrators and other personnel deemed appropriate, must receive "at least one hour" of suicide awareness and prevention training each year. The training received under this act is to be included under the existing framework for in-service training programs required by the State Department of Education or as part of required professional development activities.

LB 923, requires the Department of Education to collaborate with organizations that have expertise on the subject of suicide prevention, to develop a list of approved training materials to fulfill the training requirement under this act.

LB 923 provides that no one shall have a cause of action for any loss or damage caused by an act or failure to act resulting from the implementation, training, or failure to provide training under this act, and that no duty of care should be thought to arise from this act.

Finally, LB 923 provides authority to the Department of Education to adopt rules and regulations to carry out this new section.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM 1977 makes the following changes to LB 923:

AM1977 adds LB 872 as amended by AM1714 to create the position of a State Security Director under the Department of Education;

Assigns the oversight of the suicide prevention awareness training to the State School Security Director;

Adds the Nebraska Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness to the list of organizations that the Department of Education is to consult with when developing the list of approved suicide awareness and prevention training materials under section 4, subsection (2);

Removes the original section 3 from LB 923 as introduced, which section provided an immunity clause;

Adds school social workers to the list of public school employees who must receive 1 hour of suicide prevention training under section 4, subsection (1).

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Kate Sullivan, Chairperson