

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8961

To amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign for schools regarding youth suicide prevention resources, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2026

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. MOYLAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign for schools regarding youth suicide prevention resources, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Student Suicide Pre-
5 vention Awareness Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR SCHOOLS RE-**
2 **GARDING YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION RE-**
3 **SOURCES.**

4 Section 520B of the Public Health Service Act (42
5 U.S.C. 290bb–32) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at
8 the end;

9 (B) by redesignating paragraph (3) as
10 paragraph (4); and

11 (C) by inserting after paragraph (2) the
12 following:

13 “(3) carrying out, in coordination with the Sec-
14 retary, a public awareness campaign on youth sui-
15 cide prevention resources, including the 988 Suicide
16 & Crisis Lifeline, that—

17 “(A) includes public outreach with respect
18 to the development of such campaign; and

19 “(B) provides support to schools to update
20 signage relating to the availability of such re-
21 sources that meets the requirements specified in
22 subsection (d); and”;

23 (2) by redesignating subsections (d) through (g)
24 as subsections (e) through (h), respectively;

25 (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
26 lowing:

1 “(d) SIGNAGE ON AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES.—

2 The requirements specified in this subsection with respect

3 to signage relating to the availability of youth suicide pre-

4 vention resources are that the signage be clear and visible

5 signage that—

6 “(1) includes—

7 “(A) the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

8 phone number;

9 “(B) information that students can access

10 support by—

11 “(i) calling or sending a text message

12 to such phone number; or

13 “(ii) using digital chat services pro-

14 vided by the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline;

15 “(C) language encouraging students expe-

16 riencing emotional distress to seek help; and

17 “(D) language indicating that the 988 Sui-

18 cide & Crisis Lifeline is free, confidential, and

19 available 24 hours per day and 7 days per

20 week; and

21 “(2) is displayed, or digitally posted, as applica-

22 ble, in locations easily visible to students, includ-

23 ing—

24 “(A) entrances and exits of the school;

25 “(B) student common areas;

1 “(C) school counselor offices;
2 “(D) school nurse offices;
3 “(E) gymnasiums;
4 “(F) auditoriums;
5 “(G) art rooms;
6 “(H) music rooms;
7 “(I) libraries;
8 “(J) student restrooms (including bath-
9 room stalls and sinks) and locker rooms; and
10 “(K) digital school bulletin boards, as ap-
11 plicable.”; and
12 (4) in subsection (g), as so redesignated, by
13 striking “2024” and inserting “2027”.

○