

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8978

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to promote comprehensive campus mental health and suicide prevention plans, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2026

Mr. MANNION (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

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## A BILL

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to promote comprehensive campus mental health and suicide prevention plans, 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 “Enhancing Mental  
5       Health and Suicide Prevention Through Campus Planning  
6       Act”.

7       **SEC. 2. ENCOURAGING CAMPUS COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL**  
8               **HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION PLANS.**

9       Part L of title VIII of the Higher Education Act of  
10      1965 (20 U.S.C. 11611 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating section 826 as section 827;

2 and

3 (2) by inserting after section 825 the following

4 new section:

5 **“SEC. 826. ENCOURAGING CAMPUS COMPREHENSIVE MEN-**

6 **TAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION**

7 **PLANS.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make efforts  
9 to encourage institutions of higher education to develop  
10 and implement evidence-based comprehensive campus  
11 mental health and suicide prevention plans. Such efforts—

12 “(1) shall be conducted in coordination with the  
13 Secretary of Health and Human Services (acting  
14 through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health  
15 and Substance Use);

16 “(2) shall align with—

17 “(A) the efforts and approaches rec-  
18 ommended by the Suicide Prevention Resource  
19 Center; and

20 “(B) the programs authorized under—

21 “(i) section 9032 of the 21st Century  
22 Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–36b note;  
23 Public Law 114–255);

24 “(ii) section 520C of the Public  
25 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–34);

1 “(iii) section 520E of such Act (42  
2 U.S.C. 290bb–36);

3 “(iv) section 520E–1 of such Act (42  
4 U.S.C. 290bb–36a);

5 “(v) section 520E–2 of such Act (42  
6 U.S.C. 290bb–36b); and

7 “(vi) section 549 of such Act (42  
8 U.S.C. 290ee–4);

9 “(3) shall take into consideration existing Fed-  
10 eral and State efforts to address mental health and  
11 suicide prevention at institutions of higher edu-  
12 cation; and

13 “(4) may be carried out in collaboration with  
14 nonprofit organizations, community-based organiza-  
15 tions that partner with institutions of higher edu-  
16 cation, and other experts and stakeholders in the  
17 field of campus mental health and suicide preven-  
18 tion.

19 “(b) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall report to the  
20 Committee on Education and Workforce of the House of  
21 Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education,  
22 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate on the efforts of the  
23 Secretary carried out under this section—

1           “(1) not later than one year after the date of  
2           enactment of the Enhancing Mental Health and Sui-  
3           cide Prevention Through Campus Planning Act; and

4           “(2) three years after the date of enactment of  
5           such Act.

6           “(c) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall  
7           be construed as creating new statutory requirements for  
8           institutions of higher education or granting the Secretary  
9           new regulatory authority.”.

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