

SB-49

This bill is meant to improve the declining mental health outcomes of American youth between the ages of 12-18 years old through intervention and education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. Tolsma of Tennessee introduced the following bill;

A BILL

This bill is meant to improve the declining mental health outcomes of American youth between the ages of 12-18 years old through intervention and education.

Be it enacted by The American Legion Boys Nation Senate assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Young American's Mental Health Act".

SECTION 2.

Recognizing the rise of violent incidents in America's schools and the rise of teen suicide, be it resolved that:

1) States be required to assess its mental health resources within public schools and submit a comprehensive plan and funding request to the federal government taking into account the specific needs of the state and its municipalities

2) States and municipalities be incented to allocate up to 10% of its physical education funding in school budgets to wellness and mental health personnel in order to receive a match from the Federal Department of Education. These funds will be redirected from funding for administrative overhead in schools in order to focus more resources on mental health.

3) Congress will enact a "What's Working" challenge for states to submit results-based ideas for improving mental health outcomes and will make funding available for other states to duplicate these evidence-based programs in their own jurisdictions. These funds will be directed from the current Health and Human Services budget.

SECTION 3: TERMINATION

Appropriation and funds will be made available for a five year period at which time a review of outcomes will determine whether funding should be discontinued, reallocated or increased. The review will be conducted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.