

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 23.1-802 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public institutions of higher*
3 *education; intercollegiate athletics program coaches; Mental Health First Aid or similar training*
4 *required.*

5 [H 2420]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**8 **1. That § 23.1-802 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**9 **§ 23.1-802. Student mental health; policies; website resource; training.**

10 A. The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall develop and implement
11 policies that (i) advise students, faculty, and staff, including residence hall staff, of the proper procedures for
12 identifying and addressing the needs of students exhibiting suicidal tendencies or behavior and (ii) provide
13 for training where appropriate. Such policies shall require procedures for notifying the institution's student
14 health or counseling center for the purposes set forth in subdivision B 5 of § 23.1-1303 when a student
15 exhibits suicidal tendencies or behavior.

16 B. The board of visitors of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education shall develop and
17 implement policies that ensure that after a student suicide, affected students have access to reasonable
18 medical and behavioral health services, including postvention services. For the purposes of this subsection,
19 "postvention services" means services designed to facilitate the grieving or adjustment process, stabilize the
20 environment, reduce the risk of negative behaviors, and prevent suicide contagion.

21 C. The board of visitors of each baccalaureate public institution of higher education shall establish a
22 written memorandum of understanding with its local community services board or behavioral health authority
23 and with local hospitals and other local mental health facilities in order to expand the scope of services
24 available to students seeking treatment. The memorandum shall designate a contact person to be notified, to
25 the extent allowable under state and federal privacy laws, when a student is involuntarily committed, or when
26 a student is discharged from a facility. The memorandum shall provide for the inclusion of the institution in
27 the post-discharge planning of a student who has been committed and intends to return to campus, to the
28 extent allowable under state and federal privacy laws.

29 D. Each baccalaureate public institution of higher education shall create and feature on its website a page
30 with information dedicated solely to the mental health resources available to students at the institution.

31 E. Each resident assistant in a student housing facility at a public institution of higher education shall
32 participate in Mental Health First Aid training or a similar program prior to the commencement of his duties.

33 F. *Each coach of an intercollegiate athletics program at a public institution of higher education shall*
34 *participate in Mental Health First Aid training or a similar program within one year of the commencement of*
35 *his duties.*

ENROLLED

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