

Amendment - 1st Reading-white - Requested by: Mike Yakawich - (S) Public Health, Welfare and Safety

- 2025

69th Legislature 2025

Drafter: Julie Johnson,

SB0095.001.001

SENATE BILL NO. 95

INTRODUCED BY M. YAKAWICH

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOCATING MONEY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS FOR VETERANS AND SERVICE MEMBERS; ESTABLISHING PURPOSES FOR USE OF THE MONEY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Allocation.** (1) There is allocated ~~\$500,000~~ \$300,000 from the state special revenue account established in 17-6-603 to the department of public health and human services for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, for grants made pursuant to 53-21-1101 and 53-21-1111 for suicide prevention activities.

(2) The allocation must be used to:

(a) implement strategies that are developed, with assistance from the U.S. department of veterans affairs and the federal substance abuse and mental health services administration, as part of the ~~mayor's challenge or the governor's challenge~~ Montana department of public health and human services' campaign to prevent suicide among service members, veterans, and their families;

(b) identify and screen service members, veterans, and their families for suicide risk by:

(i) establishing screening standards for the identification of suicide risk among service members, veterans, and their families;

(ii) educating providers and peers involved in the intake process; and

(iii) establishing a review process for identification of service members, veterans, and their families in mortality and data review;

(c) promote connectedness and improve care transitions for service members, veterans, and their families by:

(i) increasing peers who are trained in suicide prevention to work in connecting those individuals

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1 to services; and

2 (ii) developing collaborative policies and protocols across military and civilian agencies to improve
3 continuity of care; and

4 (d) increase lethal means safety and safety planning by:

5 (i) implementing a safe storage campaign statewide;

6 (ii) conducting statewide lethal means safety training events; and

7 (iii) convening a working group to support adoption of clinical practice guidelines for safety

8 planning.

9 (3) The legislature intends that the allocation in this section be considered part of the ongoing base
10 for the next legislative session.

11
12 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Notification to tribal governments. The secretary of state shall send a
13 copy of [this act] to each federally recognized tribal government in Montana.

14
15 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2025.

16 - END -