

**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 -