



Sen. David Koehler

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10300SB2606sam001

LRB103 34587 RJT 70482 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2606

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2606 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act
5 is amended by changing Sections 5, 15, and 25 by adding Section
6 43 as follows:

7 (110 ILCS 58/5)

8 Sec. 5. Intent. This Act is intended to address gaps in
9 mental health services on college campuses across Illinois,
10 including both 2-year and 4-year institutions, through
11 training, peer support, ~~and~~ community-campus partnerships, and
12 academic days off.

13 (Source: P.A. 101-251, eff. 7-1-20.)

14 (110 ILCS 58/15)

15 Sec. 15. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to accomplish

1 all of the following:

2 (1) Further identify students with mental health needs
3 and connect them to services.

4 (2) Increase access to support services on college
5 campuses.

6 (3) Increase access to clinical mental health services
7 on college campuses and in the surrounding communities for
8 college students.

9 (4) Empower students through peer-to-peer support and
10 training on identifying mental health needs and resources.

11 (5) Reduce administrative policies that put an undue
12 burden on students seeking leave for their mental health
13 conditions through technical assistance and training.

14 (6) Increase the number of academic days off to
15 prevent health issues from escalating.

16 (Source: P.A. 101-251, eff. 7-1-20.)

17 (110 ILCS 58/25)

18 Sec. 25. Awareness. To raise mental health awareness on
19 college campuses, each public college or university must do
20 all of the following:

21 (1) Develop and implement an annual student
22 orientation session aimed at raising awareness about
23 mental health conditions and informing students about the
24 public college's or university's student wellness day
25 policy.

1 (2) Assess courses and seminars available to students
2 through their regular academic experiences and implement
3 mental health awareness curricula if opportunities for
4 integration exist.

5 (3) Create and feature a page on its website or mobile
6 application with information dedicated solely to the
7 mental health resources available to students at the
8 public college or university, including information about
9 the public college's or university's student wellness day
10 policy, and in the surrounding community.

11 (4) Distribute messages related to mental health
12 resources that encourage help-seeking behavior through the
13 online learning platform of the public college or
14 university during high stress periods of the academic
15 year, including, but not limited to, midterm or final
16 examinations. These stigma-reducing strategies must be
17 based on documented best practices.

18 (5) Three years after the effective date of this Act,
19 implement an online screening tool to raise awareness and
20 establish a mechanism to link or refer students of the
21 public college or university to services. Screenings and
22 resources must be available year round for students and,
23 at a minimum, must (i) include validated screening tools
24 for depression, an anxiety disorder, an eating disorder,
25 substance use, alcohol-use disorder, post-traumatic stress
26 disorder, and bipolar disorder, (ii) provide resources for

1 immediate connection to services, if indicated, including
2 emergency resources, (iii) provide general information
3 about all mental health-related resources available to
4 students of the public college or university, and (iv)
5 function anonymously.

6 (6) At least once per term and at times of high
7 academic stress, including midterm or final examinations,
8 provide students information regarding online screenings
9 and resources.

10 (7) Provide contact information for the National
11 Suicide Prevention Lifeline (988), the Crisis Text Line, a
12 local suicide prevention hotline, and the mental health
13 counseling center or program of the public college or
14 university on the back of each student identification card
15 issued by the public college or university after July 1,
16 2022 (the effective date of Public Act 102-373) if the
17 public college or university issues student identification
18 cards. If the public college or university does not issue
19 student identification cards to its students, the public
20 college or university must publish the contact information
21 on its website. The contact information shall identify
22 each helpline that may be contacted through text
23 messaging. The contact information shall be included in
24 the public college's or university's student handbook and
25 also the student planner if a student planner is custom
26 printed by the public college or university for

1 distribution to students.

2 (Source: P.A. 101-251, eff. 7-1-20; 102-373, eff. 7-1-22;
3 102-416, eff. 7-1-22; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22.)

4 (110 ILCS 58/43 new)

5 Sec. 43. Student wellness days.

6 (a) As used in this Section:

7 "Academic day" means any day Monday through Friday during
8 an academic term. "Academic day" does not include any academic
9 day off that is already being provided by each public college
10 or university for students during an academic term, including,
11 but not limited to, fall breaks, winter breaks, spring breaks,
12 public holidays, or any other academic day that a public
13 college or university provides to enrolled students as not
14 attending academic classes that is not a student wellness day.

15 "Academic term" means a division of the academic year
16 during which a course of studies from each public college or
17 university is offered. "Academic term" includes the spring
18 academic semester and fall academic semester.

19 "Academic year" means the period of time from September 1
20 of one year through August 31 of the next year or as otherwise
21 defined by the public college or university.

22 "Student wellness day" means an excused academic day of
23 absence for a student from all academic enrolled courses
24 during an academic term for any reason.

25 (b) In order to improve overall student health, beginning

1 no later than the 2026-2027 academic year, the governing body
2 of each public college or university shall adopt a student
3 wellness day policy for each academic term that does one of the
4 following:

5 (1) allows students to use a minimum of 2 student
6 wellness days per academic term;

7 (2) provides students a minimum of 2 scheduled student
8 wellness days per academic term; or

9 (3) allows students to use a minimum of one student
10 wellness day per academic term and provides students a
11 minimum of one scheduled student wellness day per academic
12 term.

13 Each public college or university student wellness day
14 policy adopted under this subsection shall apply to students
15 who are enrolled in at least one academic course that lasts 9
16 weeks or longer during an academic term, unless the course
17 conflicts with subsection (c) or subsection (d).

18 (c) A student wellness day policy adopted by a public
19 college or university under subsection (b) shall not apply to
20 a clinical component course, credit internship course, or a
21 fieldwork placement course.

22 (d) Each public college or university shall determine
23 whether its student wellness day policy adopted under
24 subsection (b) shall apply to the following students:

25 (1) students who are only enrolled in courses that are
26 8 weeks or less during an academic term;

1 (2) students who are only enrolled in non-credited
2 courses, unless the non-credited courses are remedial
3 courses; or

4 (3) students who are only enrolled in non-standard
5 courses, flexible term courses, or online courses during
6 an academic term.

7 Each public college or university student wellness day
8 policy may allow students under paragraph (1), (2), and (3) to
9 either receive one or more scheduled student wellness day or
10 use one or more student wellness day if the student wellness
11 day is a part of the students public college or university
12 student wellness days policy adopted under subsection (b) and
13 the students courses are 8 weeks or less in length during an
14 academic term.

15 (e) Student wellness days shall only be used on academic
16 days. No student wellness days may be carried over from one
17 academic term to the next academic term.

18 (f) No academic course work shall be assigned or due to
19 students on a scheduled student wellness day, if the scheduled
20 student wellness day does not conflict with any of the rules or
21 policies established in subsection (b), (c), and (d).

22 (g) Nothing in this Section shall interfere with or in any
23 way diminish the right of academic course instructors to
24 bargain collectively with their employers through
25 representatives of their own choosing to determine the
26 responsibility of tracking any student wellness days that are

1 used by students under this Section. No public college or
2 university's student wellness day's policy under this Section
3 shall infringe upon any academic course instructor's ability
4 to allow students to miss additional academic course classes.

5 (h) At a minimum, for each academic year or academic term,
6 beginning no later than the start of the 2026-2027 academic
7 year, each public college or university shall provide
8 information about the public college's or university's
9 wellness day policy in its institutions academic student
10 handbook. If a public college or university schedules a
11 student wellness day for students, the student wellness day
12 shall be scheduled before the academic term begins, and a
13 reasonable notice of the scheduled student wellness day date
14 shall be provided to the students and course instructors that
15 the student wellness day applies to before the academic term
16 begins.

17 (i) Each public college or university shall only use the
18 term "student wellness day" as the name of the day that a
19 student does not have to attend an academic class or classes
20 during an academic day under this Section.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
22 becoming law."