

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 902

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

HEALTH: Provides relative to the creation of a trauma-informed training program

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Part IX of Chapter 5-G of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be
3 comprised of R.S. 40:1300.81 and 1300.82, relative to trauma informed training; to
4 direct the Louisiana Department of Health to develop trauma-informed training; to
5 provide for delivering training; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Part IX of Chapter 5-G of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of
8 1950, comprised of R.S. 40:1300.81 and 1300.82, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 PART IX. TRAUMA-INFORMED TRAINING PROGRAM

10 §1300.81. Definitions

11 As used in this Section, the following terms have the meaning ascribed to them:

- 12 (1) "Department" means the Louisiana Department of Health.
- 13 (2) "Adverse childhood events" or "ACEs" means potentially traumatic
14 events occurring before the age of eighteen, including but not limited to all of the
15 following:
 - 16 (a) Physical, emotional, or sexual abuse.
 - 17 (b) Physical or emotional neglect.
 - 18 (c) Household substance abuse.
 - 19 (d) domestic violence.
 - 20 (e) Parental incarceration.
 - 21 (f) Other forms of chronic stress or instability.

1 (3) "Child education personnel" means any individual employed by or
2 providing services to a public elementary or secondary school including but not
3 limited to teachers administrators, school counselors, school social workers, school
4 nurses, paraprofessionals, classroom aides, and school resource officers.

5 (4) "Trauma-informed practices" means policies, procedures, and
6 interactions that recognize the presence and impact of trauma and respond in ways
7 that promote student safety, empowerment, and healing while avoiding
8 re-traumatization.

9 §1300.82. Trauma-informed training program

10 A. The department shall develop a comprehensive, evidence-based,
11 statewide trauma-informed training program for child education personnel.

12 B. The training program shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

13 (1) Provide education on the prevalence and impact of adverse childhood
14 events.

15 (2) Identify common signs and symptoms of trauma in children and
16 adolescents.

17 (3) Provide strategies for responding to trauma-related behaviors in a
18 supportive and non-punitive manner.

19 (4) Promote culturally responsive and developmentally appropriate
20 approaches.

21 (5) Include guidance on referral pathways to appropriate school-based or
22 community-based mental health and support services.

23 (6) Emphasize self-care and secondary trauma prevention for educators and
24 school staff.

25 C. The department may consult with the Department of Education, child
26 welfare agencies, mental health professionals, and other relevant stakeholders in
27 developing the training curriculum.

28 D. The department may provide the training through in-person instruction
29 online modules.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 902 Original

2026 Regular Session

Marcelle

Abstract: Directs the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to develop trauma-informed training of school personnel.

Proposed law provides for definitions.

Proposed law defines adverse childhood events as potentially traumatic events occurring before age eighteen including abuse, neglect, household substance abuse, domestic violence, parental incarceration, and other chronic stressors.

Proposed law requires the LDH to develop a comprehensive, evidence-based, statewide trauma-informed training program for child education personnel.

Proposed law requires the training program to educate school personnel on the prevalence and impact of adverse childhood events.

Proposed law requires the training program to identify common signs and symptoms of trauma in children and adolescents.

Proposed law requires the training program to provide supportive, non-punitive strategies for responding to trauma-related behaviors.

Proposed law requires the training program to promote culturally responsive and developmentally appropriate approaches.

Proposed law requires the training program to include guidance on referrals to appropriate school-based and community-based mental health and support services.

Proposed law requires the training program to emphasize self-care and prevention of secondary trauma for educators and school staff.

Proposed law authorizes the LDH to consult with the Department of Education, child welfare agencies, mental health professionals, and other stakeholders in developing the curriculum.

Proposed law authorizes the LDH to deliver the training through in-person instruction or online modules.

(Adds R.S. 40:1300.81 and 1300.82)