

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 981

BY REPRESENTATIVES DUPLESSIS, BEAULLIEU, AND SCHLEGEL

CURRICULA: Requires instruction on mental health to be provided for students in grades kindergarten through twelve

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:271.1 and 3996(B)(67), relative to curricula; to require the provision of
3 mental health instruction to public school students; to provide relative to content of
4 the instruction; to provide for incorporation of the instruction into an existing
5 required course; to provide relative to the mental health component of the state
6 content standards for health education; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:271.1 and 3996(B)(67) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §271.1. Mental health; required instruction

10 A. The governing authority of each public school shall provide to students
11 in grades kindergarten through twelve age- and grade-appropriate classroom
12 instruction relative to mental health.

13 B. The instruction shall include, at minimum, information on the following:

14 (1) Preventive mental health measures, including but not limited to proper
15 diet, exercise, risk avoidance, and stress reduction.

16 (2) The relationship between mental health and physical health.

17 (3) Brain health, emotional health, identifying trauma and stress, and the
18 impact of trauma and stress on mental health and physical health.

19 (4) Resources and services available to assist people with mental health
20 issues.

health, identifying trauma and stress, and the impact of trauma and stress on mental health and physical health; and resources and services available to assist people with mental health issues.

- (3) Requires the instruction to be integrated into an existing required course such as health education.

Proposed law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education, upon its review and revision of the state content standards for health education, to increase the emphasis on the mental health component of health education.

(Adds R.S. 17:271.1 and 3996(B)(67))