KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION **KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY** **Legislative Bill**	**Blue | Bill # HB 06** **Referred to Committee: House 2**
Authors: Raven McNeal, Franky Onley, Alexis Beyke, Adrianne Peech	**Action on the Bill**
School: Daviess County Middle School	**House** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated **Senate** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated
City: Owensboro	

An act to promote more awareness of teen suicide in schools.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Currently, teenagers in Kentucky are committing suicide at a much higher rate than other states in the nation. The purpose of this bill is to reduce the number of suicides and suicide attempts by promoting more awareness of this growing epidemic.

Section 2: Bullying prevention should be promoted more throughout the schools. One way to curb bullying, which can be a factor in youth suicide, is to create a "buddy system." All students will be paired with a compatible person that they can trust. They will help each other through the school year. When students know they can trust each other they will more likely tell their problems and concerns. Therefore, a one week bullying program is necessary to see the ins and outs of bullying that might cause a suicide or an attempt.

Section 3: A youth suicide awareness program will also be implemented that will go hand in hand with the bullying prevention. The current mandatory video that is shown in schools will be replaced. Students will learn about the signs of suicide and what to do when they encounter them. Many students do not take the mandatory video seriously. Therefore, a new one shall be made, along with having guest speakers and hands on learning activities to fully learn about youth suicide and how to prevent it.

Section 4: This program will cost next to nothing compared to the lives that it could save. To make a better, more believable video it would cost around $3,000, and then another $1,000 to create a week of programs that promote youth suicide awareness and prevention. This bill will go into effect next school year.