

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill	Red Bill # 52						
	Referred to Committee: Senate 2						
Authors: Maxwell Clark, Sarah McNees, Larah Ballard, Daniel Bankes	Action on the Bill						
School: St. Agatha Academy							
City: Winchester							
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">House</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Senate</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> <td style="text-align: center;">____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> </tr> </table>	House	Senate	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
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1 An act to require state-mandated mental health counselors in public and private schools.
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3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**
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5 Section 1: Suicide is the third leading cause of death for children ages 10-14 in Kentucky, and the second
6 leading cause of death for people ages 15-24 in Kentucky. Every day in Kentucky, there are nearly 42
7 suicide attempts and two deaths. (<http://www.sprc.org>). These tragedies could be prevented if the warning
8 signs were detected and given attention by a mental health professional as soon as warning signs appear.
9
10 Section 2: 3.3% of 13 to 18 year olds have experienced a serious, debilitating, depressive disorder. Eight
11 percent of teens, aged 13-18 years old, have an anxiety disorder, with symptoms commonly emerging
12 around 6 years old. However, of these teens, only 18% received mental health care. (<http://www.sprc.org>). All
13 students should have a right to mental healthcare, as not receiving treatment could have a negative impact
14 on their ability to perform in school, and thereby prevent them from receiving their education, a protected
15 property according to the Constitution.
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17 Section 3: When students with mental health problems go untreated, they pose a significant risk to
18 themselves and others.
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20 Section 4: This bill would be enforced by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services.
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22 Section 5: This will be funded by the local taxes for health, which also fund the local health departments.
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24 Section 6: This bill shall come into effect August 1, 2016.
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