

HB 3643 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Elmer

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 03/31/25

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Boshart Davis, Bowman, Drazan, Elmer, Kropf, Pham H, Valderrama

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/17, 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure designates October 9 of each year as Oregon Youth Suicide Awareness Day. It declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Courage of Mikalynn Morris's family and friends to share their stories and raise awareness

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data for 2022 shows

- An increase in age 24 and younger youth suicides in Oregon in 2022, which is the first increase since 2018. The national rate for youth suicide decreased in 2022.
- In 2022, 109 Oregon youths died by suicide, compared to 95 in 2021. Despite this increase between 2021 and 2022, the three-year trend for youth suicide is still trending down from the peak in 2018 when 129 youths died by suicide.
- Suicide remains the second-leading cause of death among people ages five to 24.
- There continue to be racial disparities in the data. Deaths by suicide for youth identified as white have decreased overall since 2018; however, the number of suicides for youth of other races and ethnicities remained similar to 2018 levels or increased.
- The 2022 data show that Oregon had the 12th highest youth suicide rate in the United States.
- Oregon's rate of youth suicide in 2022 was 14.2 per 100,000. In 2018, Oregon's rate was 16.9 per 100,000. This remains above the national average (10.0 per 100,000).

Starting in 2014, and with additional investment in 2019, the Legislative Assembly commissioned the OHA to develop and oversee implementation of a five-year Youth Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan (YSIPP). [The most recent plan](#) covers 2021-2025. The Legislative Assembly also enacted Senate Bill 52 in 2019, also known as Adi's Act, that requires each school district to adopt a comprehensive district plan on student suicide prevention that identifies school officials responsible for responding to reports of suicidal risk, procedures for suicide prevention and intervention, and training materials available to school employees.