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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require local educational agencies to include mental health and suicide prevention information on student identification cards, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require local educational agencies to include mental health and suicide prevention information on student identification cards, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Raising Awareness for  
5       Youth Suicide Prevention Act” or the “RAYS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION IN-**  
2 **FORMATION ON STUDENT IDENTIFICATION**  
3 **CARDS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart 2 of part F of title VIII  
5 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965  
6 (20 U.S.C. 7901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
7 the following:

8 **“SEC. 8549D. INCLUSION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE**  
9 **PREVENTION INFORMATION ON STUDENT**  
10 **IDENTIFICATION CARDS.**

11 “(a) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—

12 “(1) ID CARDS.—Each local educational agency  
13 that issues identification cards to students in sec-  
14 ondary schools shall ensure that such identification  
15 cards include contact information for—

16 “(A) the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline  
17 (or an alternative service designated by the Sec-  
18 retary under subsection (c));

19 “(B) the Crisis Text Line (or an alter-  
20 native service designated by the Secretary  
21 under subsection (c)); and

22 “(C) a State or local suicide prevention  
23 hotline selected by the agency, if available.

24 “(2) OTHER METHODS.—Each local educational  
25 agency that does not issue identification cards to  
26 secondary school students shall—

1           “(A) prominently publish the contact infor-  
2           mation specified in paragraph (1) on a publicly  
3           accessible website of the agency; and

4           “(B) include such information on computer  
5           portals and software platforms regularly used  
6           by secondary school students.

7           “(b) METHOD OF INCLUSION.—The information re-  
8           quired under subsection (a)(1) may be included on identi-  
9           fication cards using any method the local educational  
10          agency determines appropriate, which may include—

11          “(1) printing the information directly on the  
12          cards;

13          “(2) affixing a sticker to the cards that con-  
14          tains the information; or

15          “(3) other such methods.

16          “(c) DESIGNATION OF ALTERNATIVE SERVICES.—

17          “(1) IN GENERAL.—In the event a service de-  
18          scribed in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection  
19          (a)(1) becomes unavailable or ceases to operate ef-  
20          fectively, the Secretary may designate an alternative  
21          service that provides equivalent or comparable men-  
22          tal health resources to be included on student identi-  
23          fication cards as required under such subsection.

1           “(2) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 60 days  
2           after designating an alternative service under para-  
3           graph (1), the Secretary shall—

4                   “(A) notify local educational agencies of  
5                   such designation; and

6                   “(B) provide such agencies with the con-  
7                   tact information for the alternative service.

8           “(d) OPTIONAL INFORMATION.—In addition to the  
9           information required under subsection (a), a local edu-  
10          cational agency may consider—

11                   “(1) including information on additional mental  
12                   health resources, such as contact information for  
13                   school counselors or school mental health resources,  
14                   on student identification cards; and

15                   “(2) adding the information described in sub-  
16                   section (a)(1) to identification cards issued to teach-  
17                   ers, administrators, and other school personnel.

18          “(e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary, in coordination  
19          with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the  
20          heads of other appropriate agencies, shall conduct out-  
21          reach and awareness campaigns to inform students, par-  
22          ents, school personnel, and the public about the mental  
23          health resources described in subsection (a). Such out-  
24          reach efforts shall—

1           “(1) include the dissemination of information  
2           through school-based programs, websites, social  
3           media, and other communication channels; and

4           “(2) provide information in a manner that is  
5           accessible to students and community members with  
6           physical, developmental, and intellectual disabilities.

7           “(f) APPLICABILITY.—

8           “(1) PHYSICAL ID CARDS.—The requirements  
9           of subsection (a)(1) shall apply with respect to stu-  
10          dent identification cards issued by local educational  
11          agencies for school years beginning after the effec-  
12          tive date of this section. Nothing in this section shall  
13          be construed to require the modification of a student  
14          identification card issued before such effective date.

15          “(2) OTHER INFORMATION.—The requirements  
16          of subsection (a)(2) shall apply beginning 60 days  
17          after the effective date of this section.

18          “(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘local  
19          educational agency’ means a local educational agency that  
20          receives Federal funds.”.

21          (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22          subsection (a) shall take effect one year after the date of  
23          enactment of this Act.