

The New York City Council

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Res 0052-2018

0052- **Version**: *

Name: Every school district in New York City to employ a

suicide prevention coordinator.

Type: Resolution Status: Filed (End of Session)

In control: Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities and

Addiction

On agenda: 1/31/2018

Enactment date: Enactment #:

Title: Resolution calling on every school district in New York City to employ a suicide prevention coordinator.

Sponsors: Vanessa L. Gibson, Justin L. Brannan, Rafael Salamanca, Jr., Diana I. Ayala

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. Res. No. 52, 2. January 31, 2018 - Stated Meeting Agenda, 3. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting

01-31-2018, 4. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - January 31, 2018

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
1/31/2018	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
1/31/2018	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/31/2021	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Res. No. 52

Resolution calling on every school district in New York City to employ a suicide prevention coordinator.

By Council Members Gibson, Brannan, Salamanca and Ayala

Whereas, Tragically, individuals of all backgrounds and walks of life commit suicide; and

Whereas, According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), suicide was the third leading cause of death for children 10 to 14 years old in 2015; and

Whereas, Statistics from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) indicate that suicide is the 4th leading cause of death for individuals between 10 and 14 years of age; and

Whereas, Data from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) found that there were more deaths in New York City from suicide than homicide between 2000 and 2014 and that the annual rate of suicide citywide rose by 14.5 percent during that time period;

Whereas, Adolescence can be a difficult time due to the mental and physical changes that individuals undergo; and

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Whereas, However, the National Institutes of Health has estimated that nearly 80 percent of children

who need mental health services will not receive them; and

Whereas, New York City has the largest public school system in the country and its schools educate

approximately 1.1 million children every year; and

Whereas, According to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), 27 percent of New

York City high school students report feeling sad or hopeless each month and 8 percent report having attempted

suicide; and

Whereas, Schools exist in large part to ensure the

holistic development of the child, linking academic development with social growth and emotional support; and

Whereas, For decades, public health professionals have touted the virtues of prevention for afflictions

ranging from the flu to sexually transmitted diseases, reasoning that mitigating problems in advance is

preferable to dealing with them once they have reached crisis proportions; and

Whereas, Employing a suicide prevention coordinator in every school district in New York City would

expand the reach and scope of preventative efforts and make it easier for troubled teens to seek help; now,

therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls on every school district in New York City to

employ a suicide prevention coordinator

LS#3194

1/12/18 MK