



if The Jason Foundation®
Working to Give Our Youth a Promise for Tomorrow

February 5, 2016

Scott Gordon
General Counsel, Kansas State Department of Education
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212

Mr. Gordon and Board of Education,

After reviewing your last email of the regulatory action (K.A.R. 91-31-32 / 91-31-32 Performance and quality criteria / 12. (A)(B)) which included referral to The Jason Flatt Act as a model to be utilized, I agree with our conversation allowing The Jason Flatt Act to be enacted through regulatory process through the Department of Education. I see several benefits as you pointed out in your testimony, (1) inclusion of all school personnel; (2) each school creating a protocol "building plan" on how to respond to an at-risk student, suicide attempt or suicide. Also, as I understand it, your process within the Department of Education can implement this training requirement in a shorter period of time...thus touching and saving more lives.

With the above understanding, once we have confirmation from your Board that the proposed language is approved / agreeable, we see no need to have the parallel legislation in the House and Senate. We have already talked with both sponsors of the legislation and they are in agreement with us.

We hope the model of utilizing the leadership of a state's Department of Education and their Regulatory power concerning training requirement for educator / school personnel will become a model for other states. We appreciate your and the Board's work to make this possible.

Regards,


Clark Flatt
President, The Jason Foundation, Inc.
"Jason's Dad"