

**As Amended by House Committee**

*Session of 2021*

**HOUSE BILL No. 2281**

By Committee on Health and Human Services

2-9

1 AN ACT concerning public health; establishing 988 as the suicide  
2 prevention and mental health crisis hotline in Kansas; providing for the  
3 Kansas department for aging and disability services to provide  
4 oversight and support to hotline centers; prescribing hotline center  
5 duties and provision of services; telecommunication providers duties;  
6 collection and disbursement of fees for the 988 hotline.

7  
8 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

9 Section 1. Sections 1 through 5, and amendments thereto, shall be  
10 known and may be cited as the living, investing in values and ending  
11 suicide (LIVES) act.

12 Sec 2. As used in sections 1 through 5, and amendments thereto:

13 (a) "Crisis-receiving and stabilization services" means short-term  
14 services with capacity for diagnosis, initial management, observation,  
15 crisis stabilization and follow-up referral services.

16 (b) "Department" means the Kansas department for aging and  
17 disability services.

18 (c) "Exchange telecommunications service" means the same as  
19 provided in K.S.A. 12-5363, and amendments thereto.

20 (d) "Hotline" means the 988 suicide prevention and mental health  
21 crisis hotline or its successor maintained by the assistant secretary for  
22 mental health and substance use under 42 U.S.C. § 290bb-36c.

23 (e) "Hotline center" means a 988 suicide prevention and mental  
24 health crisis hotline center, designated by the Kansas department for aging  
25 and disability services, participating in the national suicide prevention  
26 lifeline network to respond to statewide or regional 988 calls.

27 (f) "Mobile crisis team" means a team of behavioral health  
28 professionals and peers that provide professional, community-based, crisis  
29 intervention services, including, but not limited to, de-escalation and  
30 stabilization for individuals who are experiencing a behavioral health  
31 crisis. Such services are separate and distinct from 911 emergency  
32 responses of emergency medical services or law enforcement.

33 (g) "NSPL" means the national suicide prevention lifeline, the  
34 national network of local, certified crisis centers that provide free and  
35 confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional  
36 distress 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

1 the guidelines established by the department in subsection (a);  
 2 (C) coordinate access to crisis-receiving and stabilization services or  
 3 other local resources as appropriate according to guidelines established by  
 4 the department in subsection (a);  
 5 (D) provide referrals and follow-ups according to the guidelines  
 6 established by the department in subsection (a);  
 7 (E) continue to meet training requirements established by the NSPL  
 8 and the department in subsection (a); and  
 9 (F) continue to work with the United States department of veterans  
 10 affairs to route calls from self-designated veterans for the provision of  
 11 VCL services.

12 (c) Providers shall:

13 (1) Prior to July 16, 2022:

14 (A) Establish 988 as the unique number for suicide prevention and  
15 mental health crisis;

16 (B) transmit all calls initiated by a service user dialing 988 to the  
17 current toll-free access number for the NSPL;

18 (C) complete all changes necessary to implement the designation of  
19 the 988 dialing code; and

20 (D) establish a system for collecting fees and remitting such fees to  
21 the 988 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline fund  
22 established pursuant to section 4, and amendments thereto.

23 (2) After July 16, 2022:

24 (A) Direct all calls initiated by a user dialing 988 to hotline centers;  
25 and

26 (B) collect fees and remit such fees to the 988 suicide prevention and  
27 mental health crisis hotline fund established pursuant to section 4, and  
28 amendments thereto.

29 Sec. 4. (a) There is hereby imposed a 988 fee in the amount of \$.50  
 30 per month per subscriber account of any exchange telecommunications  
 31 service, wireless telecommunications service, VoIP service or other service  
 32 capable of contacting a hotline center. Such fee shall not be imposed on  
 33 prepaid wireless service. It shall be the duty of each exchange  
 34 telecommunications service provider, wireless telecommunications service  
 35 provider, VoIP service provider or other service provider to remit such fees  
 36 to the department of revenue.

(1)

37 (b) Every billed service user shall be liable for the 988 fee until such  
 38 fees have been paid to the exchange telecommunications service provider,  
 39 wireless telecommunications service provider, VoIP service provider or  
 40 other service provider. All providers shall have the duty to collect the fees  
 41 imposed pursuant to this act. Such fees shall be added to and may be stated  
 42 separately in billings for the subscriber account. If stated separately in  
 43 billings, the fees shall be labeled "988 fees." The fees imposed by this

(2) The cumulative total of 988 fees charged to a billed service user for all subscriber accounts on any monthly billing shall not exceed \$50.