

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0180

K-12 mental health program-3.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Larsen, L, Lawley and  
Sherwood and Senator(s) Barlow, Nethercott  
and Schuler

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to education; creating a program relating  
2 to K-12 mental health as specified; providing  
3 appropriations; providing positions; requiring reports;  
4 repealing a provision; and providing for an effective date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-13-338 is created to read:

9

10 **21-13-338. Mental health program for K-12 students.**

11

12 (a) The department of education shall administer a  
13 program to address the mental health needs of K-12 public  
14 school students. The program shall be implemented in K-12  
15 public schools for a minimum of two (2) school years and

1 shall focus on advancing wellness and resiliency in the  
2 education of K-12 students. The intent of the program shall  
3 be to screen or otherwise identify students with mental  
4 health challenges, to stabilize those students until  
5 further support can be found and to refer those students to  
6 appropriate services. Program funding shall be available to  
7 every Wyoming public school district, each of which can  
8 choose whether to implement the program.

9

10 (b) Each school district participating in the program  
11 shall report to the department of education the expenditure  
12 of amounts appropriated for this program, the number of  
13 students that received services as a result of the program  
14 and the impact of the services offered. Each district shall  
15 provide other information and data as required by the  
16 department.

17

18 (c) Schools shall notify parents or guardians if  
19 their child is identified as needing services under the  
20 program pursuant to the requirements of W.S. 21-3-135.

21

22 **Section 2.**

23

1           (a) Up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00), or as  
2 much thereof as is credited to the public school foundation  
3 program account as a result of the appropriation repealed  
4 in section 3 is hereby reappropriated from the public  
5 school foundation program account to the department of  
6 education-school finance in order to implement the mental  
7 health program pursuant to section 1 of this act for school  
8 year 2025-2026, to augment amounts within the education  
9 resource block grant model available to districts to  
10 address the mental health needs of the K-12 student  
11 population. This reappropriation shall be for the period  
12 beginning with the effective date of this act and ending  
13 June 30, 2026. This reappropriation shall not be  
14 transferred or expended for any other purpose and any  
15 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this  
16 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,  
17 2026.

18

19           (b) There is appropriated eight hundred five thousand  
20 dollars (\$805,000.00) from the public school foundation  
21 program account to the department of education-school  
22 finance to implement the mental health program pursuant to  
23 section 1 of this act for school year 2025-2026, to augment

1 amounts within the education resource block grant model  
2 available to districts to address the mental health needs  
3 of the K-12 student population. This appropriation shall be  
4 for the period beginning with the effective date of this  
5 act and ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not  
6 be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any  
7 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this  
8 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,  
9 2026.

10

11 (c) It is the intent of the legislature that the  
12 funding to implement the mental health program in  
13 subsections (a) and (b) of this section be doubled and  
14 included in the department of education-school finance's  
15 next budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013.

16

17 (d) From the reappropriation in subsection (a) of  
18 this section and appropriation in subsection (b) of this  
19 section:

20

21 (i) Community project manager positions shall be  
22 created in each participating district, the salaries and  
23 fringe benefits of which shall not exceed one hundred

1 thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) per school year, per  
2 district with an ADM of five hundred (500) or more students  
3 and which shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars  
4 (\$25,000.00) per school year, per district with an ADM of  
5 less than five hundred (500) students;

6

7 (ii) Community support coordinator positions  
8 shall be created in each participating district, the  
9 salaries and fringe benefits of which shall not exceed  
10 thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) per school year,  
11 per district.

12

13 (e) The department of education is authorized two (2)  
14 full-time positions for the purpose of implementing and  
15 administering this act. The salary and benefits of the  
16 positions authorized under this subsection shall be paid  
17 from the reappropriation made in subsection (a) of this  
18 section and the appropriation made in subsection (b) of  
19 this section, in an amount not to exceed two hundred  
20 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$225,000.00) per fiscal year.

21

22 **Section 3.**

23

1           (a) 2024 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 118, Section  
2 331(a) is repealed.

3

4           (b) Unexpended, unobligated funds deappropriated as a  
5 result of the appropriation repealed in subsection (a) of  
6 this section shall be credited to the public school  
7 foundation program account on the effective date of this  
8 section.

9

10           **Section 4.** Not later than August 1, 2026, the  
11 department of education shall report to the joint education  
12 interim committee findings and recommendations on the  
13 number of students served as a result of the implementation  
14 of the mental health program pursuant to section 1 of this  
15 act and shall include any recommendations to address the  
16 costs associated with responding to students' mental health  
17 needs.

18

1           **Section 5.** This act is effective immediately upon  
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
4 Constitution.

5

6

(END)