

## CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 727 (Mark González)

As Amended June 19, 2025

Majority vote

**SUMMARY**

Requires public schools serving students in grades seven to 12, inclusive, as well as public institutions of higher education (IHEs) that issue student identification (ID) cards which include printed contact information for the Trevor Project's LGBTQ+ suicide hotline.

**Senate Amendments**

- 1) Removed references to a 24-hour per day, seven day per week suicide hotline and replaced with an LGBTQ+ suicide hotline.
- 2) Removed the requirement that private institutions of higher education comply with the requirement to add the LGBTQ+ suicide hotline to student ID cards.

**COMMENTS**

*Trevor Project Crisis Line.* According to their website, Trevor Project crisis counselors are trained to answer calls, chats, or texts from LGBTQ+ young people who reach out on the free, confidential, and secure 24/7 service when they are struggling with issues such as coming out, LGBTQ+ identity, depression, and suicide. Data provided by the Trevor Project identifies that:

- 1) Suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people aged 10 to 14 and the third leading cause of death among 15-24 year olds (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022);
- 2) LGBTQ+ young people are more than four times as likely to attempt suicide than their peers (Johns et al., 2019; Johns et al., 2020);
- 3) More than 1.8 million LGBTQ+ young people (ages 13-24) seriously consider suicide each year in the U.S. — and at least one attempts suicide every 45 seconds; and
- 4) The Trevor Project's 2023 U.S. National Survey on the Mental Health of LGBTQ+ Young People found that 41% of LGBTQ+ young people seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, including roughly half of transgender and nonbinary youth.

**According to the Author**

"In today's political climate, LGBTQ+ students face significant levels of bullying, harassment, and discrimination—negatively impacting their mental health and academic success. AB 727 will provide critical resources to support LGBTQ+ youth in crisis and those who have experienced harassment.

FBI data shows that reported hate crimes against LGBTQ+ youth in schools more than doubled between 2018 and 2022. However, due to voluntary reporting policies, the true numbers are likely even higher. A study by The Trevor Project found that among LGBTQ+ young people (ages 13-24), 39% seriously considered suicide in the past year, and 12% attempted it.

Additionally, 25% of those who attempted suicide reported experiencing physical threats or harm based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

By requiring student ID cards for students in grades seven to 12 and higher education to include The Trevor Project's 24/7 crisis hotline and text line and mandating annual updates to the CDE's website with LGBTQ+ support resources, AB 727 is a necessary step in ensuring that LGBTQ+ students receive the resources and support they need to thrive."

### **Arguments in Support**

The Sacramento LGBT Community Center writes, "Research by The Trevor Project has shown that in a study of 18,000 LGBTQ+ young people ages 13-24 from across the U.S., 39% seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, and 12% attempted. Of those pupils who attempted suicide, 25% experienced physical threats or harm due to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

California remains at the forefront of LGBTQ+ protections and resources for students, but many LGBTQ+ youth do not know how to access them. By increasing the visibility of these services, we hope to increase access while also fostering an inclusive learning environment, which research demonstrates contributes to better educational outcomes."

### **Arguments in Opposition**

The California Family Council writes, "While suicide prevention is an important and serious concern, this mandate poses a significant threat to religious liberty, parental rights, and the ability of private institutions to operate in accordance with their deeply held beliefs. AB 727 disregards the religious convictions of private, faith-based schools by forcing them to promote an LGBTQ advocacy organization that contradicts their values.

AB 727 places California's religious schools in an impossible position—forced to compromise their convictions by promoting an organization that contradicts their values. Additionally, parents deserve the right to guide their children's moral and spiritual development without the state undermining that role."

## **FISCAL COMMENTS**

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

- 1) The bill's requirement for K-12 school and community college districts could result in a reimbursable state mandate. The Chancellor's Office estimates one-time Proposition 98 General Fund costs in the tens of thousands of dollars to reformat student ID cards at community college campuses. School districts serving students in grades seven through 12 are likely to incur similar one-time Proposition 98 General Fund costs to reformat student ID cards at their schoolsites.
- 2) The University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) indicate that any costs resulting from this measure would be minor and absorbable within existing resources.

**VOTES:****ASM EDUCATION: 7-2-0****YES:** Muratsuchi, Addis, Alvarez, Bonta, Garcia, Lowenthal, Patel**NO:** Hoover, Castillo**ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 11-3-1****YES:** Wicks, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache**NO:** Dixon, Ta, Tangipa**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Sanchez**ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-13-7****YES:** Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas**NO:** Castillo, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Alanis, Chen, Davies, Lackey, Macedo, Ramos, Wallis**UPDATED**

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