

Raising Awareness for Youth Suicide Prevention (RAYS) Act



Suicide is the...

2nd leading cause of death for 10-14 year olds in 2021 according to the CDC.

37% of high school students reported experiencing poor mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic

The RAYS Act requires middle and high schools that receive federal funding to include suicide prevention information such as the 988 crisis line on school IDs.

The RAYS Act saves lives.

- 1.** It puts resources in the palms of students in need.
- 2.** It destigmatizes discussions regarding mental health and engenders conversation about suicide prevention in schools.
- 3.** It is written BY young people, FOR young people.
- 4.** It directly addresses correlations between limited awareness and subsequent hesitancy to seek help in times of need.

25 states including Arizona, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and more already require schools to have suicide prevention information on student ID cards for middle and/or high school students. The RAYS Act works to expand these resources to students nationwide.
