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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2812

03/10/2016 Authored by Persell, Simonson, Fischer, Halverson, Yarusso and others  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Reform

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to health; establishing suicide prevention and training for firefighters,  
1.3 law enforcement, and emergency services personnel; appropriating money;  
1.4 proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 145.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. **[145.561] SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING FOR FIREFIGHTERS,**  
1.7 **LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL.**

1.8 The commissioner of health, in consultation with the Minnesota Ambulance  
1.9 Association, Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota, Minnesota Board of Firefighter  
1.10 Training and Education, State Fire Chiefs Association, Minnesota Police and Peace  
1.11 Officers Association, Minnesota Sheriffs' Association, mental health professionals with  
1.12 expertise in suicide prevention, and emergency medical services (EMS) professionals  
1.13 with experience in suicide prevention and trauma-induced depression, shall develop a  
1.14 suicide prevention training program for firefighters, law enforcement personnel, and EMS  
1.15 personnel. The program shall include training to recognize the impact of tragic encounters  
1.16 and duress encountered by these groups in their unique line of duty. The program must  
1.17 be based on evidence-based behavioral health assistance to effectively serve these  
1.18 groups and to establish a coordinated suicide prevention strategy. The program materials  
1.19 shall include training materials on the relationship between the risk of suicide and the  
1.20 effect of psychological distress resulting from experiencing occupational trauma. The  
1.21 commissioner shall develop a list of resources that include behavioral health specialists,  
1.22 peer support programs, and social supports.

1.23 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING.**

2.1 \$395,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2017 from the general fund to the  
2.2 commissioner of health to establish the suicide prevention training program under  
2.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 145.561. This appropriation does not cancel and is available  
2.4 until expended.