

Hofstra University
Student Government Association
2023

S.A.2023.88.011

Amending the New York Student Suicide Prevention Act (SSPA)

Whereas, the Student Suicide Prevention Act (SSPA), an active bill introduced in the New York State Legislature, would require New York's public schools serving students in grades 7-12 to provide resources and outline response procedures for students in suicidal crisis. The Hofstra University Student Government Association (SGA) believes that non-public schools and colleges and universities should similarly be uniformly required to develop such resources and procedures to support students in crisis.

Whereas, a student-led initiative, organized by One More Option, a nonprofit, and the Stony Brook Undergraduate Student Government, is calling for the SSPA to be amended to incorporate provisions requiring nonpublic schools & higher education institutions to i) develop suicide prevention policies and ii) make specific mental health support services more identifiable and accessible.

Let it be resolved, that the Hofstra University Student Government Association (SGA) hereby joins this coalition of collegiate student governments calling for the enactment of these reforms.

Let it be resolved, that the SGA calls for the SSPA to be amended to require public and private colleges and universities statewide to develop policies on suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention, in addition to K-12 schools.

Let it be resolved, that the SGA calls for the SSPA to be amended to expand the scope of the bill to cover nonpublic schools and address other at-risk student populations not mentioned in its current version.

Let it be resolved, that the SGA calls for the SSPA to be amended to add provisions requiring nonpublic schools and universities to increase access to, and visibility of, crisis resources for all students.

Let it be resolved, that the SGA calls for state lawmakers representing Hofstra University's campus and students to work collaboratively to expedite the aforementioned amendment and passage of the SSPA, before the current legislative session ends in June 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hofstra University Student Government Association