LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 727

Introduced by Walz, 15; Hilkemann, 4; Kolowski, 31; Linehan, 39; Pansing Brooks, 28; Wishart, 27.

Read first time January 23, 2019

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to provide duties for school
- 2 districts, the State Department of Education, and the Department of
- 3 Health and Human Services with respect to mental health services.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

- 1 Section 1. (1) On or before August 1 of each year, the State
- 2 Department of Education in consultation with the Department of Health and
- 3 Human Services shall provide each school district with a registry of
- 4 state and local mental health resources available to work with students
- 5 and families by geographic area. The registry shall be updated at least
- 6 <u>annually and include resources for both school-based services and</u>
- 7 services accessed by families and individuals outside of schools.
- 8 (2) Each school district shall designate one or more mental health
- 9 points of contact for each school building or other division as
- 10 <u>determined by the school district. A mental health point of contact may</u>
- 11 be an administrator, a school nurse, a school psychologist, or another
- 12 <u>designated school employee</u>. Each mental health point of contact shall be
- 13 trained in mental health issue identification and have knowledge of
- 14 <u>community service providers and other resources available for students</u>
- 15 and families.
- 16 (3) Each mental health point of contact shall facilitate access to
- 17 mental health services during the school day at the school the student
- 18 attends whenever possible.
- 19 (4) Each school district shall report the designated mental health
- 20 points of contact to the State Department of Education prior to the
- 21 beginning of each school year.