



# AGENDA ITEM 14

Action

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## 2026 Sponsored Legislation

### Item Goals

- Review and consideration of legislation for the Commission to sponsor in the 2026 legislative session.

### Behavioral Health Landscape

- The Behavioral Health Services Act establishes the Commission with the mandate to, among other responsibilities, identify key policy issues and emerging best practices, provide technical assistance and training, foster the implementation of high-quality programs, and advise the Governor and the Legislature.

### Relevant Commission Work

- On August 1, 2025, the Commission issued a Request for Bill Proposals to stakeholders, Commissioners, and staff, guided by the Decision-Making Framework for Legislation.
- Twenty-two proposals were received, reflecting key themes such as crisis response, workforce, youth behavioral health, veterans, and equity.
- An overview of the legislative landscape and early proposal concepts were presented at the September 18, 2025, Legislative and External Affairs (LEX) Advisory Committee meeting.
- After applying the Decision-Making Framework to vet the proposals, Commission staff recommended one proposal, titled *Sustaining and Supporting Suicide Prevention in Schools*, for sponsorship in the 2026 legislative session at the LEX Advisory Committee on December 15, 2025, which was subsequently approved by the committee.
- In addition, the Program Advisory Committee approved Behavioral Health Student Services Act funding to compliment this proposal on December 15, 2025, which was also approved by the Budget and Fiscal Advisory Committee on December 16, 2025.

## **Proposed Motion**

That the Commission approve sponsoring a bill for Sustaining and Supporting Suicide Prevention in Schools for the 2026 legislative session.