

1 AN ACT relating to mental health and making an appropriation therefor.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 210 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *As used in Sections 1 to 4 of this Act:*

6 *(1) "9-8-8 crisis service" means a system that provides the end user of a service*
7 *connection to a crisis hotline center by using the digits 9-8-8, directs emergency*
8 *calls to the appropriate crisis hotline center based on the geographic location*
9 *from which the call originated, and provides the capability for automatic number*
10 *identification and automatic location identification features in accordance with*
11 *the Federal Communications Commission;*

12 *(2) "Cabinet" means Cabinet for Health and Family Services;*

13 *(3) "Crisis Hotline Center" means a state-identified and funded center participating*
14 *in the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Network to respond to statewide or*
15 *regional 9-8-8 calls;*

16 *(4) "National suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline" or "9-8-8 hotline"*
17 *means the universal telephone number for the national suicide prevention and*
18 *mental health crisis hotline system;*

19 *(5) "National Suicide Prevention Lifeline" or "NSPL" means the national program*
20 *that operates the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline*
21 *system;*

22 *(6) "SAMHSA" means the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services*
23 *Administration; and*

24 *(7) "Veterans crisis line" or "VCL" means the veterans crisis line maintained by the*
25 *Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 38 U.S.C. 1720F(h).*

26 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 210 IS CREATED TO
27 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 (1) The cabinet shall provide that any person dialing the digits 9-8-8 shall be
2 automatically redirected and connected to the national suicide prevention lifeline
3 telephone number.
- 4 (2) The cabinet shall designate a crisis hotline center to provide crisis intervention
5 services and crisis care coordination to individuals contacting the 9-8-8 hotline
6 from any jurisdiction within the Commonwealth twenty-four (24) hours a day
7 and seven (7) days a week.
- 8 (3) The crisis hotline center shall:
- 9 (a) Have an active agreement with the administrator of the NSPL for
10 participation within the network;
- 11 (b) Meet NSPL requirements and best practices guidelines for operational and
12 clinical standards;
- 13 (c) Report and participate in evaluations and related quality improvement
14 activities;
- 15 (d) Utilize technology, including chat and text, that is interoperable across
16 emergency response systems used throughout Kentucky;
- 17 (e) Deploy crisis and outgoing services, including mobile crisis teams, and
18 coordinate access to crisis receiving and stabilization services or other local
19 resources as appropriate and according to guidelines and best practices
20 established by the NSPL;
- 21 (f) Meet the requirements set forth by NSPL for serving high-risk and
22 specialized populations as identified by SAMHSA, including training
23 requirements and policies for transferring hotline callers to an appropriate
24 specialized center or subnetworks within, or external to, the NSPL network;
- 25 (g) Provide follow-up services to individuals accessing the 9-8-8 hotline
26 consistent with guidance and policies established by the NSPL; and
- 27 (h) Report to the cabinet as required by contract;

- 1 1. The general topic of calls;
 2 2. County residence of callers; and
 3 3. Demographic information of callers.
 4 (4) The cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations to establish and
 5 maintain the crisis hotline center.
 6 (5) The cabinet shall work in concert with NSPL and VCL networks for the purposes
 7 of ensuring consistency of public messaging about 9-8-8 services.
 8 (6) The cabinet shall annually submit a report to the General Assembly and
 9 SAMHSA on the usage and services of the crisis hotline center.

10 ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 210 IS CREATED TO
 11 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 12 (1) There is hereby created a restricted fund to be known as the Crisis Services fund.
 13 (2) The fund shall be administered by the cabinet.
 14 (3) The fund shall consist of moneys from:
 15 (a) The local 9-8-8 fees assessed on users pursuant to Section 4 of this Act;
 16 (b) Appropriations made by the General Assembly;
 17 (c) Grants and gifts intended for deposit in the fund;
 18 (d) Interest, premiums, gains, or other earnings; and
 19 (e) Money from any other source that is deposited in or transferred to the fund.
 20 (4) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, any moneys remaining in the fund at the close of
 21 the fiscal year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into the succeeding
 22 fiscal year to be used in accordance with subsection (3) of this Section
 23 (5) Moneys in the Crisis Services fund shall not be subject to transfer to any other
 24 fund or to transfer, assign, or reassign for any other use or purpose outside of
 25 those specified in this section.
 26 (6) The cabinet shall annually submit a report to the General Assembly and the
 27 Federal Communications Commission on the Crisis Services fund deposits and

1 expenditures.

2 ➔SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 210 IS CREATED TO
3 READ AS FOLLOWS:

4 (1) Any local government may establish 9-8-8 crisis service upon approval of the
5 governing body of the city, county, consolidated local government, or urban-
6 county government and may adopt regulations concerning the provisions of this
7 service by ordinance.

8 (2) Any local government, or any combination thereof, may with the approval of
9 their governing bodies enter into an interlocal cooperation agreement creating a
10 joint 9-8-8 crisis service.

11 (3) (a) The funds required by a local government to establish and operate 9-8-8
12 crisis service, or to participate in a joint service with other local
13 governments, may be obtained through the levy of any special tax or fee not
14 in conflict with the Constitution and statutes of this state. The special tax or
15 fee may include a subscriber charge for 9-8-8 crisis service that shall be
16 levied on an individual exchange-line basis, limited to a maximum of
17 twenty-five (25) exchange lines per account per government entity.

18 (b) Any private commercial telephone service or owner of a dispersed private
19 telephone system that provides local and 9-8-8 crisis service to subscribers
20 for compensation shall collect and remit the subscriber charge to the local
21 government on the same basis as the primary local exchange carrier.

22 (c) Any provider of interconnected VOIP local and 9-8-8 emergency services to
23 subscribers for compensation shall collect and remit any special tax,
24 license, or fee levied under paragraph (a) of this subsection to the local
25 government, except that the special tax or fee levied under paragraph (a) of
26 this subsection shall not apply to a commercial mobile radio service.

27 (4) All revenue raised from any special tax, license, or fee levied under this section

1 shall be distributed to the Crisis Service fund, which the cabinet will allocate.
2 (5) The cabinet shall sequester the revenue received from cities, counties,
3 consolidated local governments, or urban-county governments in trust to be
4 obligated or expended only in support of the crisis hotline center and related
5 services.