

New Resource on NASMHPD's 988 Resource Site

NASMHPD

National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

988 Model Bill Template for 2023 Core State Behavioral Health Crisis Services Systems

AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE 2022 MODEL BILL TO INCORPORATE
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARITY, HEALTH EQUITY, 988 AND 911 COORDINATION,
FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY, AND CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

@12-13-22

The highlighted language below was added to the original 988 Model Bill for Core State Behavioral Health Crisis Services Systems (dated 2-22-22) to update and strengthen behavioral health crisis systems. Changes to text using Track Changes are updates and edits to the 2022 language.

AN ACT concerning a Core State Behavioral Health Crisis Services System

For the purpose of improving the quality and access to behavioral health crisis services; reducing stigma surrounding suicide, mental health and substance use conditions; providing a behavioral health crisis response that is substantially equivalent to the response already provided to individuals who require emergency physical health care in the State; furthering equity in addressing mental health and substance use conditions, requiring **parity in insurers' and health plans' coverage of mental health and substance use disorder benefits; strengthening the crisis response for children, youth, young people, and families; requiring protocols for 988 crisis counselors, 911 responders, and law enforcement involvement; updating the name of the 988 Suicide Hotline; ensuring a culturally and linguistically competent response to behavioral health crises and saving lives; requiring the State to pursue sustainable sources of funding;** building a new system of equitable and linguistically appropriate behavioral crisis services in which all individuals are treated with respect, dignity, cultural competence, and humility; and for the purpose of complying with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 and the Federal Communication Commission's rules adopted July 16, 2020 to assure that all citizens and visitors of the State of XXXXX receive a consistent level of **9-8-8-988** and crisis behavioral health services no matter where they live, work, or travel in the state.

988 Core Model Bill Template for 2023 – Core State Behavioral Health Crisis Services Systems

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Model Bill Update 2023

New and expanded topics

- Behavioral Health Parity – equity between BH and med/surg cost sharing, payments, etc.
- Health Equity – underserved, cultural/linguistic competence
- 988/911/Law Enforcement coordinating responses
- Financial Stability – apply for Medicaid match of 85% to cover 988/crisis services
- SAMHSA's New National Guidelines for Youth, Young People and Families
- Billing/coding assistance from Medicaid for providers, MCOs etc.