

# 988 Model Bill for 2024

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January 10, 2024

**NASMHPD**

# Model Bill -- beginnings

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## Purpose:

**Provide a template with basic ideas for states to use to draft legislation to develop a crisis services system**

## Process:

**NASMHPD shared draft with stakeholders, made edits, and distributed it to all states and stakeholders**

# Model Bill 2021 - components

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- **Basic definitions**
- **Coordination of call/contact centers with Vibrant**
- **Centers authorized to deploy MCTs; onsite; state/fed funds**
- **Continuum of crisis services**
- **Coordination across services**
- **Consistent messaging**
- **Needs of at-risk populations are a priority**
- **Funding to support system**
- **Use of an oversight body**
- **Consistency with National Suicide Hotline Designation Act and FCC Rules**

# Model Bill - 2022 changes

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- **Establishes that crisis receiving & stabilization centers are not IMDs**
- **Improve equity by incorporating cultural and linguistic competency**
- **Require service linkages to community providers**
- **Improve communication across crisis and emergency response systems**
- **Administration of 988 trust fund to protect the funds**
- **988 centers and response personnel should reflect community demographics and be trained to serve at-risk populations**
- **Composition of advisory body**

# Model Bill - 2023 Changes

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- **Emphasis is on parity in coverage of mental health & substance use benefits**
- **Strengthen crisis response for children, youth, and families**
- **Requires protocols for 988 crisis counselors, 911 responders, and law enforcement**
- **Update name of 988 Suicide “Hotline” to 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**
- **Ensure a response with cultural and linguistic competency**
- **Requires state to pursue sustainable sources of 988 Lifeline Center funding**

# Model Bill - 2024 Changes

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- **Clarifies MCT includes certified BH professional**
- **State to assist with collaborations between Lifeline centers and community groups**
- **Lifeline center must meet requirements set by Lifeline program and provide follow-up services**
- **Updates parity provisions to give states added power**
- **Emphasis on components of a 988/911 collaboration – coordination, training, protocols, procedures**
- **Adds new definitions related to 988/911 collaboration**

# **NASMHPD.org ... 988 transforming crisis systems resources**

Note that track changes are in the bill intentionally so you can easily identify what needs to be changed in your existing statute and/or added to it

## **988 Model Bill Template for 2024 Core State Behavioral Health Crisis Services Systems**

**AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE 2023 MODEL BILL TO:**

**UPDATE 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE LANGUAGE, ADD NEW DEFINITIONS  
AND DESCRIPTIONS REGARDING 988- 911 COLLABORATION, AND PARITY  
PROVISIONS**

**@1-4-24**

*The 2023 988 Model Bill Template for Core State Behavioral Health Crisis Services Systems (dated 12-13-22) has been updated/edited for 2024 using Track Changes.*

**AN ACT concerning a Core State Behavioral Health Crisis Services System**