

## **AB 2562: Alcohol & Drug Treatment Facilities - Suicide Prevention**

### **SUMMARY**

AB 2562 would require licensed alcohol and drug treatment facilities and certified recovery programs to create a suicide prevention plan.

### **EXISTING LAW**

Currently, in the California Code of Regulations under Title 9 "Rehabilitative and Developmental Services", two of the four departments already require suicide prevention plans – the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Juvenile Justice. However, the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs currently has no requirement for such health facilities to have a suicide policy in place. This gap is an oversight in alignment across departments in the importance of holistic care for individuals in rehabilitative and developmental services.

In Health & Safety Code Section 11832.8, there are already operational requirements for recovery programs including policies and procedures for admission and discharge, services, medication, code of conduct and client rights. In Health & Safety Code Section 11834.26, there are also various operational requirements for licensees of treatment facilities currently in place. This bill simply adds the requirement of a suicide prevention plan to these existing statutes.

### **ISSUE**

Patients or clients in substance use disorder treatment settings can often suffer from suicidal ideation. Like addiction, suicide is unbiased and can impact anyone.

From [a study](#) done by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, "Individuals diagnosed with substance use disorders (SUDs) are at increased risk of suicidal ideation. Up to 40% of those seeking substance use disorder treatment have a suicide attempt history. Importantly, a previous attempt is a key predictor of future suicide."

The U.S. National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine (NIH/NLM) also published [an article](#) saying "given the high prevalence of

alcohol/opioid use alongside escalating rates of suicide, there is a compelling need for attention to their cooccurrence."

### **SOLUTION**

AB 2562 would require licensed treatment facilities and certified programs to have a suicide prevention plan in place, thus improving and prioritizing patient safety and ultimately, their success. This measure would incrementally bridge the gap currently existing in the California Code of Regulations amongst rehabilitative departments and in Health & Safety Code statutes.

This bill would add a new level of care in the promotion of emotional, mental and physical health for individuals in treatment settings.

### **SIMILAR LEGISLATION**

- AB 1356 (Dixon, 2025) - Alcohol and other drug programs - Chaptered
- SB 1318 (Wahab, 2024) - Pupil health: suicide prevention policies: pupil suicide crisis - Chaptered
- AB 1394 (Irwin, 2022) - General acute care hospitals: suicide screening - Chaptered
- AB 58 (Salas, 2022) - Pupil health: suicide prevention policies and training - Chaptered
- AB 2112 (Ramos, 2020) - Suicide prevention - Chaptered
- SB 960 (Leyva, 2018) - Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation: suicide prevention: reports - Chaptered

### **SUPPORT**

Capo Cares

### **OPPOSITION**

None on File.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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