

PREPARED BY: Mikayla Findlay  
 DATE PREPARED: February 7, 2025  
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**LB 217**

Revision: 00

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES</b> (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	<b>FY 2025-26</b>		<b>FY 2026-27</b>	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

**Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.**

This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to establish and implement standardized suicide awareness training in consultation with organizations and professionals with expertise in behavioral and mental health. The training is to incorporate evidence-based practices to identify early warning signs and appropriate and effective responses. All child welfare caseworkers and any other personnel determined by the Division of Child and Family Services of DHHS will be required to be trained for at least 90 minutes. The bill specifies the training is for all employees of child-placing agencies prior to independent contact with youth and families.

DHHS notes that the Division of Children and Family Services is working on implementing suicide awareness and prevention training for initial training. Staff trainings are not required to be completed prior to contact with youth or families.

The agency indicates costs to implement the provisions of the bill can be absorbed within current appropriations.

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>				
LB:	217	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services	
REVIEWED BY:	Ann Linneman	DATE:	2-7-2025	PHONE: (402) 471-4180
COMMENTS: Concur with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' assessment of fiscal impact.				

**ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: (3) John Meals

Date Prepared 2-7-25

Phone: (5) 471-6719

**FY 2025-2026**

**FY 2026-2027**

	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
<b>GENERAL FUNDS</b>				
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>				
<b>FEDERAL FUNDS</b>				
<b>OTHER FUNDS</b>				
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

LB217 requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to develop baseline curriculum and training materials related to suicide awareness and prevention. All staff involved in the child welfare system of DHHS shall have training in suicide awareness prevention. All employees of a child-placing agency must have suicide awareness and prevention training prior to any independent contact with youth and families. The Act would be operative on 10/1/2025.

Currently, new caseworkers complete a 60-minute Suicide Prevention, Question Persuade Refer (QPR) training as part of their initial training. They also receive an additional 30 minutes of training on suicide prevention and mental health services. These trainings meet the evidence-based practice and time implementation requirements of the bill. However, they are not currently required to be completed prior to independent contact with youth or families. CFS staff are also not currently required to complete the training annually.

The costs to implement the required training are listed below. However, because CFS is already in the process of implementing this, there are no new funds or positions needed. The bill also does not specifically require QPR but that is the training curriculum CFS already utilizes. CFS has 5 Training Coordinators currently trained in QPR. The cost to certify a trainer for QPR is \$600.00/person. CFS needs to maintain 5 Training Coordinators to meet the training volume and would need to have additional staff certified in QPR if an existing staff left their position.

In addition to the trained coordinators, CFS also pays an annual cost of \$3,000 for QPR materials which are required to be provided at every QRP training.

All costs and hours associated with this bill would be absorbed by the Department.

**MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

PERSONAL SERVICES:	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2025-2026	2026-2027
	26-26	26-27	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				
Capital Outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital Improvements.....				
<b>TOTAL.....</b>			\$0	\$0