



Representative Gail Pavliga
Ohio's 75th House District

House Bill 468

Good Morning

Thank you Chair Carruthers, Ranking Member Boyd, and all members of this committee for being here today.

House Bill 468 will establish a statewide 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline and mental health crisis telephone line in accordance with a federal mandate to be effective no later than July 16th, 2022

This legislation will designate crisis centers to participate in the 9-8-8 hotline that provides or coordinates crisis stabilization and intervention to individuals accessing the 9-8-8 hotline in this state. The local jurisdiction will ensure all individuals will have access to these services.

Establishing this hotline will provide crisis response and outgoing services to calls twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week by personnel who reflect the demographics of the served community and are trained to serve at-risk communities, including culturally and linguistically competent services for LGBTQ+, racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse communities;

The hotline and corresponding crisis centers will meet all national suicide prevention requirements, and coordinate with the state 9-8-8 administrator to effectively and efficiently provide mental health services.

The 9-8-8 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline shall be paid for by appropriations made by the general assembly and money awarded to the state, and donations, gifts or bequests and other money received for this purpose.

This simple Bill creates a human infrastructure that will help us flow targeted resources for Veterans and many others who are vulnerable.

Thank You