



2026 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 122

SENATE JUDICIARY ENGROSSED

This bill has been extensively amended (hoghoused) and may no longer be consistent with the original intention of the sponsor.

Introduced by: **Senator Perry**

1 **An Act to establish the crime of failure to summon aid for a suicide attempt and**
 2 **provide a penalty therefor.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 22-16:**

5 A person commits the offense of failure to summon aid for a suicide attempt if the
 6 person:

7 (1) Is physically present at the scene of the attempt;

8 (2) Knows that another individual is attempting suicide or has inflicted self-harm that
 9 creates an imminent risk of serious bodily injury; and

10 (3) Intentionally fails to promptly summon assistance by contacting law enforcement,
 11 medical personnel, or another person reasonably likely to secure immediate
 12 emergency assistance.

13 A violation of this section is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

14 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 22-16:**

15 It is a defense to section 1 of this Act if:

16 (1) The person:

17 (a) Reasonably feared imminent harm to self or others;

18 (b) Reasonably believed aid had already been summoned; or

19 (c) Is under the age of eighteen; or

20 (2) It was otherwise not reasonably possible for the person to summon aid.