

2 MINUTE ADVOCACY ASK

HB 520: 2023 Mental Health

Be a voice for children!

The Ask: **TODAY** - Call members of the Senate Mental Health Parity Subcommittee **ASAP** and ask them to vote **Do Pass** when the House Bill 520 comes before them in subcommittee this afternoon (MONDAY).

The Why:

HB 520 is legislation encompassing many of the recommendations of the 2022 report by the Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission. It is the next step in improving behavioral health protocols, services and workforce for children and adults in the state.

Check out our factsheet on the [Crisis in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health](#)

For more details of HB 520 itself, see the summary below.

The Message:

Dear Senator _____,

Please vote Do Pass when HB 520 comes before you in subcommittee TODAY. This bill encompasses many of the recommendations of the 2022 report by the Behavioral Health Reform and Innovation Commission. It continues the excellent work championed by the late Speaker David Ralston and his wife, Sheree. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for Georgia's children ages 5-17, and the number of children in Georgia who visited emergency rooms for reasons related to suicide nearly tripled between 2008 and 2021. This legislation is the next, crucial step in improving behavioral health protocols, services and workforce for children and adults in the state. Thank you for your service and for all you do for Georgia's children.

The Contact Info.:

[Contact Members of the Senate Mental Health Parity Subcommittee](#)