SENATE BILL NO. 321

March 25, 2021, Introduced by Senators SANTANA, WOJNO, BAYER, HOLLIER, GEISS, CHANG, BULLOCK, ALEXANDER, THEIS, MCBROOM and JOHNSON and referred to the Committee on Education and Career Readiness.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code,"
(MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1526b.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

Sec. 1526b. (1) Not later than 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, the department, in coordination and collaboration with the department of health and human services, community mental health services programs, and state associations representing mental health professionals,
including, but not limited to, licensed school-based mental health professionals, shall develop or adopt professional development standards for professional development for teachers on recognizing and addressing mental-health needs.

(2) The professional development standards developed or adopted under subsection (1) must include coverage of at least both of the following:

(a) The identification of potential risk factors and warning signs for mental illnesses, including, but not limited to, depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, eating disorders, substance use disorders, and self-injury.

(b) Strategies for helping an individual experiencing a mental health crisis, including, but not limited to, assessing risk, listening respectfully, supporting the individual, and identifying professional help and other resources for the individual.

(3) Professional development for teachers on recognizing and addressing mental health needs that meets the standards developed or adopted under subsection (1) may be counted toward the professional development required under section 1527(1).

(4) As used in this section, "community mental health services program" means that term as defined in section 100a of the mental health code, MCL 330.1100a.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days after the date it is enacted into law.