



**Alaska Association of Student Governments  
Resolution #5 (PASSED)  
Requirement for Teachers to receive Suicide Prevention Training  
By Donald Handeland and Tessa Baldwin**

**Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:**

- 1. Whereas**, Alaska has the highest suicide rates in the nation,
- 2. Whereas**, people between the ages of 15-22 commit the majority of the
- 3. suicides** which is the age group that are in high school
- 4. Whereas** the signs of potential suicide can be unrecognizable,
- 5. Whereas**, in Alaska most teachers are not required to get suicide
- 6. prevention training,**
- 7. Whereas**, teachers interact with students on a daily basis,
- 8. Whereas**, the State of Alaska doesn't require teachers to receive suicide
- 9. prevention training,**
- 10. Whereas**, resources are available for training, like Kognito online training,
- 11. Whereas**, schools usually provide grief counseling immediately after a
- 12. suicide**, but its tends to eventually be discontinued,
- 13. Therefore be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student**
- 14. Governments that the State of Alaska look into developing a system to**
- 15. require all teachers in Alaska to participate in a suicide prevention**
- 16. program.**

**Action statement:** if passed by the Alaska Association of Student Governments, this resolution will be sent to the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council as well as the State Board of Education and Early Development.

Sources

Statewide suicide prevention council website <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/suicideprevention/>

Kognito website <http://website.kognito.com/>  
Alaska Commissioner of Education and Early Development