AN ACT

To amend chapters 9 and 191, RSMo, by adding thereto three new sections relating to the show-me compassionate medical education act.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapters 9 and 191, RSMo, are amended by adding thereto three new sections, to be known as sections 9.154, 191.594, and 191.596, to read as follows:

9.154. 1. August 28, 2016, and thereafter the date designated by the show-me compassionate medical education research project committee established in section 191.596, shall be designated as "Show-Me Compassionate Medical Education Day" in Missouri. The citizens of the state of Missouri are encouraged to participate in appropriate activities and events to increase awareness regarding medical education, medical student well-being, and measures that have been shown to be effective, are currently being evaluated for effectiveness, and are being proposed for effectiveness in positively impacting medical student well-being and education.

2. The director of the department of mental health shall notify the revisor of statutes of the date selected by the show-me compassionate medical education research project committee for the show-me compassionate medical education day.

191.594. 1. Sections 191.594 to 191.596 shall be known and may be cited as the "Show-Me Compassionate Medical Education Act".

2. No medical school in this state shall prohibit, discourage, or otherwise restrict a medical student organization or medical organization from undertaking or conducting a study of the prevalence of depression and suicide or other mental health issues among medical students. No medical school in this state shall penalize, discipline, or otherwise

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.
take any adverse action against a student or a medical student organization in connection with such student's or medical student organization's participation in, planning, or conducting a study of the prevalence of depression and suicide or other mental health issues among medical students.

3. For purposes of this section, the following terms shall mean:

   (1) "Medical organization" includes, but is not limited to, organizations such as the Missouri State Medical Association and the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons;

   (2) "Medical school", any allopathic or osteopathic school of medicine in this state;

   (3) "Medical student organization" includes, but is not limited to, organizations such as the American Medical Student Association, the Student Osteopathic Medical Association, and any medical student section of a medical organization.

191.596. 1. Medical schools in this state may, in collaboration with the show-me compassionate medical education research project committee, conduct a single center or multicenter study or studies, which, if conducted, shall be known as the "Show-Me Compassionate Medical Education Research Project", in order to facilitate the collection of data and implement practices and protocols to minimize stress and reduce the risk of depression and suicide for medical students in this state.

2. There is hereby established the "Show-Me Compassionate Medical Education Research Project Committee", which shall consist of representatives from each of the medical schools in this state and the director of the department of mental health, or the director's designee. The committee shall:

   (1) Conduct an initial meeting on August 28, 2016, to organize, and meet as necessary thereafter to implement any research project conducted; and

   (2) Set the date for the show-me compassionate medical education day designated under section 9.154. The date selected shall be for 2017 and every year thereafter.

3. Any single center or multicenter study undertaken by the committee or its member schools may include, but need not be limited to, the following:

   (1) Development of study protocols designed to identify the root causes that contribute to the risk of depression and suicide for medical students;

   (2) Examination of the culture and academic program of medical schools that may contribute to the risk of depression and suicide for medical students;

   (3) Collection of any relevant additional data including, but not limited to, consultation and collaboration with mental health professionals and mental health resources in the communities where medical schools are located;
(4) Collaboration between the medical schools in this state in order to share information and to identify and make recommendations under subdivision (5) of this subsection; and

(5) Based on the data and findings under subdivisions (1) to (3) of this subsection:

(a) Identification of the best practices to be implemented at each medical school designed to address the root causes and changes in medical school culture in order to minimize stress and reduce the risk of depression and suicide for medical students;

(b) Recommendation of any statutory or regulatory changes regarding licensure of medical professionals and recommendation of any changes to common practices associated with medical training or medical practice that the committee believes will accomplish the goals set out in this section.

4. The committee shall prepare an annual report that shall include any information under subdivision (5) of subsection 3 of this section and any measures reported by any medical school as a result of the findings under this section. The report shall be made available annually on each medical school's website and to the Missouri general assembly.