



Legislation Text

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File #: ID-5830, Version: 1

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**Narrative of Resolution:**

**WHEREAS**, the NYS Office of Mental Health provides for regional suicide prevention and mental health crisis helplines throughout NYS, also known as 9-8-8, which is an over-the-phone resource for individuals suffering from a mental health crisis or condition, and

**WHEREAS**, Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health serves as the regional 9-8-8 call center location for callers in the Sullivan County area, and

**WHEREAS**, 9-8-8 calls are answered by mental health professionals that are trained to mitigate and connect callers experiencing a mental health crisis with the help and services they require, and

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County 911, like several other 911 centers have done successfully in NYS, wishes to implement a 9-8-8 diversion program of mental health callers of lower acuity in order to connect them for evaluation and referral by 9-8-8 mental health professionals, and

**WHEREAS**, the Sullivan County EMS & Law Enforcement leadership has endorsed this policy as a means of connecting callers with lower acuity mental health needs with mental health professionals; thereby reserving resources for higher acuity calls, and

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County Deputy Commissioner Melissa Stickle has been involved in developing this policy along with her office.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the attached policy for 9-8-8 diversion is approved by the Sullivan County Legislature as an addition to the Sullivan County 911 Center Standard Operating Guidelines.

**If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:**

**Amount to be authorized by Resolution:** \$0

**Are funds already budgeted?** Yes

**Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:**

No procurement necessary