Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2017

SENATE BILL NO. 2342
(Senator Grabinger)
(Representative Satrom)

AN ACT to provide for the creation of a task force on the prevention of sexual abuse of children; and to provide a report to the legislative management.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. TASK FORCE ON PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNOR.

1. During the 2017-18 interim, a task force on the prevention of sexual abuse of children shall gather information concerning child sexual abuse throughout the state and develop recommendations to reduce child sexual abuse.

2. The task force consists of the following members:

   a. One member of the senate appointed by the majority leader of the senate, one member of the house of representatives appointed by the majority leader of the house of representatives, and one member of the minority party appointed by the minority leaders of the senate and the house of representatives;

   b. The executive director of the department of human services, or the executive director's designee;

   c. A representative of a children's advocacy center or similar organization that assists in the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child sexual and physical abuse cases, appointed by the executive director of the department of human services;

   d. A representative of an organization involved in the prevention of child abuse, appointed by the executive director of the department of human services;

   e. The superintendent of public instruction, or the superintendent's designee;

   f. A representative of law enforcement, appointed by the attorney general; and

   g. The executive director of the Indian affairs commission, or the executive director's designee.

3. The executive director of the department of human services, or the executive director's designee, shall convene the task force. The task force shall elect a presiding officer by a majority vote of the membership of the task force. The task force shall meet at the call of the presiding officer.

4. The task force shall:

   a. Gather information concerning child sexual abuse throughout the state;

   b. Receive reports and testimony from individuals, state and local agencies, community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations;

   c. Create goals for state policy that would prevent child sexual abuse; and

d. Submit a final report with its recommendations to the governor and the legislative management.

5. The recommendations of the task force may include proposals for specific statutory changes and methods to foster cooperation among state agencies and between the state and local governments in adopting and implementing a policy addressing sexual abuse of children which may include age-appropriate curriculum for students in prekindergarten through grade twelve; training for school personnel on child sexual abuse; educational information to parents or guardians provided in school handbooks regarding the warning signs of a child being abused, along with any needed assistance, referral, or resource information; available counseling and resources for students affected by sexual abuse; and emotional and educational support for a child of abuse to continue to be successful in school.

President of the Senate	Speaker of the House
Secretary of the Senate	Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2342.

Senate Vote:	Yeas 47	Nays 0	Absent 0
House Vote:	Yeas 85	Nays 7	Absent 2

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____M. on _____, 2017.

Approved at _____M. on _____, 2017.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____day of _____, 2017,

at _____ o'clock _____M.

Secretary of State