

Introduced by

Senator Grabinger

Representative Satrom

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for the creation of a task force on the prevention of sexual abuse of  
2 children; and to provide a report to the legislative management.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

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

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

9 2. The task force consists of the following members:

10 a. ~~One member of the senate and one member of the public, appointed by the~~  
11 ~~senate majority leader;~~

12 ~~b. One member of the senate and one member of the public, appointed by the~~  
13 ~~senate minority leader;~~

14 ~~c. One member of the house of representatives and one member of the public,~~  
15 ~~appointed by the house majority leader;~~

16 ~~d. One member of the house of representatives and one member of the public,~~  
17 ~~appointed by the house minority leader;~~

18 ~~e. One member of the senate and one member of the house of representatives~~  
19 ~~appointed by the chairman of the legislative management. One legislator must be~~  
20 ~~a member of the majority party and one legislator must be a member of the~~  
21 ~~minority party;~~

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

- 1            ~~f.c.~~    A representative of ~~an agency~~ a children's advocacy center or similar organization
- 2                            that ~~leads the collaboration of~~ assists in the investigation, prosecution, and
- 3                            treatment of child sexual and physical abuse cases, appointed by the executive
- 4                            director of the department of human services;
- 5            ~~g.d.~~    A representative of an organization involved in the prevention of child abuse,
- 6                            appointed by the executive director of the department of human services;
- 7            ~~h.e.~~    The superintendent of public instruction, or ~~a designee of the superintendent~~ the
- 8                            superintendent's designee;
- 9                            ~~i. The state health officer or a designee of the state health officer;~~
- 10           ~~j.f.~~    A representative of law enforcement, appointed by the attorney general; and
- 11           ~~k. A representative of North Dakota united, appointed by the president of North~~
- 12                            ~~Dakota united~~
- 13           g. The executive director of the Indian affairs commission, or the executive
- 14                            director's designee.
- 15           ~~2.3.~~    The executive director of the department of human services, or the executive director's
- 16                            designee, shall convene the task force. The task force shall elect a presiding officer by
- 17                            a majority vote of the membership of the task force. The task force shall meet at the
- 18                            call of the presiding officer.
- 19           ~~3.4.~~    The task force shall:
- 20                            a. Gather information concerning child sexual abuse throughout the state;
- 21                            b. Receive reports and testimony from individuals, state and local agencies,
- 22                            community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations;
- 23                            c. Create goals for state policy that would prevent child sexual abuse; and
- 24                            d. Submit a final report with its recommendations to the governor and the legislative
- 25                            management.
- 26           ~~4.5.~~    The recommendations of the task force may include proposals for specific statutory
- 27                            changes and methods to foster cooperation among state agencies and between the
- 28                            state and local governments in adopting and implementing a policy addressing sexual
- 29                            abuse of children which may include age-appropriate curriculum for students in
- 30                            prekindergarten through grade five; training for school personnel on child sexual
- 31                            abuse; educational information to parents or guardians provided in school handbooks

Sixty-fifth  
Legislative Assembly

- 1 regarding the warning signs of a child being abused, along with any needed
- 2 assistance, referral, or resource information; available counseling and resources for
- 3 students affected by sexual abuse; and emotional and educational support for a child
- 4 of abuse to continue to be successful in school.