

HOUSE BILL NO. 1262

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Jones, Paulson, Schauer

Senator Clemens

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-12 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the ~~establishment of a school safety and crisis hotline~~
3 ~~program~~ expansion of existing school safety and crisis reporting programs; and to provide for a
4 continuing appropriation.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **School safety and crisis ~~hotline program~~ reporting programs - Confidentiality of**
9 **records - Continuing appropriation.**

10 ~~1. The attorney general shall establish and administer a statewide program for receiving~~
11 ~~reports and other information related to school and student safety, including potential~~
12 ~~self-harm and potential harm or criminal acts directed at students, school employees,~~
13 ~~or schools. The program must:~~

14 ~~a. Establish a method to ensure the identity of an individual providing information~~
15 ~~remains unknown to all persons, including law enforcement officers and~~
16 ~~employees of the program;~~

17 ~~b. Establish a method whereby information obtained from an individual who~~
18 ~~voluntarily discloses that individual's own identity and which verifies the individual~~
19 ~~is willing to be identified may be shared with law enforcement officers, employees~~
20 ~~operating the program, and school officials;~~

21 ~~c. Establish a method to ensure, if the identity of an individual who is providing~~
22 ~~information becomes known, whether through voluntary disclosure or other~~
23 ~~means, the identity is not further disclosed;~~

- 1 ~~d. Assist law enforcement agencies and other public safety organizations in the~~
2 ~~detection of dangerous, violent, or criminal activities and in the apprehension of~~
3 ~~offenders or at-risk persons by promptly forwarding information received to the~~
4 ~~appropriate law enforcement agency, public safety agency, and school officials;~~
5 ~~e. Encourage state and local media providers to promote the program by informing~~
6 ~~the public of its functions and benefits;~~
7 ~~f. Include a crisis hotline that must be available to receive reports and information~~
8 ~~twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week;~~
9 ~~g. Establish a means for an individual to anonymously report:~~
10 ~~(1) Incidents of bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, or hazing; and~~
11 ~~(2) Incidents of physical or sexual abuse committed by a school employee or~~
12 ~~school volunteer;~~
13 ~~h. Include crisis intervention, including suicide prevention, to individuals~~
14 ~~experiencing emotional distress or psychiatric distress;~~
15 ~~i. Provide program awareness and education materials to all preschool,~~
16 ~~elementary, and secondary schools in the state at no charge to the schools; and~~
17 ~~j. Provide students and staff at a school that has experienced a crisis, emergency,~~
18 ~~or suicide access to counseling and other resources to assist in recovering from~~
19 ~~the crisis, emergency, or suicide.~~
20 1. The attorney general shall encourage and promote the use of statewide and
21 locally-selected school safety and crisis reporting programs.
22 2. If funding becomes available, the attorney general may:
23 a. Expand a statewide program to include tailored reporting mechanisms targeted to
24 incidents of bullying and physical or sexual abuse; and
25 b. Conduct outreach to promote awareness of statewide or locally-selected school
26 safety and crisis reporting programs.
27 2.3. All records or information related to the operation of ~~this program required under the~~
28 programs described in subsection 1 are exempt records as defined in section
29 44-04-18.1.
30 3.4. The attorney general may seek and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any
31 source for the purpose of carrying out its duties under this section. All moneys

- 1 received as gifts, grants, and donations are appropriated to the attorney general on a
2 continuing basis for the purpose of carrying out this section.
3 | 4.5. The attorney general ~~shall~~may adopt rules necessary to administer the duties required
4 to carry out this section.