

January 16, 2023

RE: HB 1144

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Shanna Brady and I have been a childcare provider in Bismarck for 17 years. I am writing in favor of HB 1144. Far too often I get questions from providers about how they should go about reporting suspected abuse. They seem to get a couple different answers depending on who they ask. I do want to ask that the training be included in our required number of training hours annually and not in addition. I also would like to see it be a free training since it will be a mandatory training.

My only concern for this training would be that it becomes redundant like the annual SIDS training. It is the same training year after year so many providers do not even pay attention. I currently am part of the local childcare association board, Association for Better Childcare, located in Bismarck. Part of my duties are booking our monthly trainings. We currently book at least one abuse training every 3 years. In 2023 we have 2 trainings regarding abuse/neglect. One is just a general child abuse training and the other is regarding sexual behaviors in children that will go over the normal behaviors and the not normal behaviors. The members absolutely love the abuse trainings because it is not the same exact training each time and it is very eye opening. Maybe the solution would be to make this training be mandatory every 3 years instead of annually.

Thanks,

Shanna Brady