

Chairman Nathe, Vice Chair Swiontek, Members of the committee, my name is Hailey Boekelheide. I appear today in support of House bill 1144.

I am a university student, and I hope to start a career and raise a family in North Dakota. As a future mother looking to raise children in this state, and it would bring me great comfort knowing I am sending my children to schools that are full of well-trained educators. Educators, who, if the worst were to happen, are prepared to defend the safety of all children and their peers.

North Dakota educators play a vital role in children's' lives. This bill empowers those individuals to recognize the warning signs of abuse and act swiftly. The training, which I have completed twice in three years, is both edifying and insightful. It can be found at <https://mandatedreporter.pcand.org/> It gives mandated reporters additional confidence to identify the signs of abuse and it works to keep North Dakota Children safe.

Because of this reason, I ask the committee to recommend a DO PASS for bill 1144.
Thank you for your time and I stand for questions.