



# NORTH DAKOTA

## *Family Alliance* LEGISLATIVE ACTION

### Testimony Supporting House Bill 1312

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Good afternoon Chairman Heinert and honorable members of the House Education Committee. My name is Jacob Thomsen and I am representing North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action. I am testifying on behalf of our organization in support of House Bill 1312 and respectfully request that you render a “DO PASS.”

Mental health problems and suicide are quite possibly the two biggest issues that young people across the United States face today. They cause devastation to families and cause feelings that no family should have to experience. No one should feel that they have to walk alone in these situations. Schools are the places where children and young people spend a large majority of their time. Because of these reasons, it is imperative that schools are equipped with the proper resources to handle mental health problems and suicide.

In the age of social media, these situations are ever-evolving. This is why a continuation of training and resources to handle these situations is so important. Schools need to be fully equipped to handle the situations that occur in students and among them. For these reasons, North Dakota Family Alliance Legislative Action requests a “DO PASS.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and I’d be happy to answer any questions.