

1/16/2023

Relating to the creation of the 988 crisis hotline program and the 988 crisis stabilization fund and the imposition of a 988 access fee.

Dear Chairman Senator Lee and Members of the Human Services Committee.

On behalf of FirstLink, I would like to thank you for your continued unwavering support and commitment to serving people in crisis, including individuals in our state who will contact the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (988 Lifeline). My name is Christine Club and I humbly ask for your support of SB 2149.

I work in public accounting but have been serving on the board of director for FirstLink for 7 years. I have had a front row seat to the help and hope that FirstLink has provided for those reaching out in a moment of crisis and utilizing the 988 Lifeline. It has been eye opening and overwhelming to see the call volumes that are answered by this wonderfully compassionate group of individuals. And those numbers continue to increase every day as those with mental health crisis continue to reach out for help.

Thank you again for your commitment to serving individuals experiencing a mental health emergency. Please feel free to contact me at the email address below if you have any questions or to discuss ensuring individuals in our great state of North Dakota have access to robust and well-resourced crisis intervention services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Club". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Club