

FEBRUARY 1, 2023

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SB 2257

INTRODUCED BY

SENATOR DAVID CLEMENS

DIST 16

MADAM CHAIR LARSON AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE. I AM DAVID CLEMENS AND SERVE AS SENATOR FROM DISTRICT 16. I AM HERE TO INTRODUCE SB 2257.

THE PURPOSE OF THE BILL IS TO ADDRESS SOME DATES RELATING TO THE TASK FORCE ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE. AS OF NOW, THE TASK FORCE PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED TO END ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2024. HOWEVER, IN ORDER FOR THE TASK FORCE TO CONTINUE UNTIL THE END OF THE NEXT BIENNIUM, THIS BILL WILL EXTEND THE EXPIRATION DATE TO JUNE 30, 2025. FUNDING FOR THE 2023-2025 TASK FORCE ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IS INCLUDED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET.

THE TASK FORCE IS A MUCH-NEEDED PROGRAM THAT NEEDS TO CONTINUE. WITH A FULL TIME DIRECTOR, GROUND WORK HAS BEEN LAID AND PROGRAMS ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED TO INFORM NORTH DAKOTA OF THE EVER INCREASING PROBLEM OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE. FAMILIES, AND ESPECIALLY THE CHILDREN, ARE BEING DAMAGED OR THREATENED BY THIS UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR IN OUR SOCIETY.

PLEASE SUPPORT SB 2257 WITH A DO PASS RECOMMENDATION IN YOUR COMMITTEE.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

SENATOR DAVID CLEMENS