

Testimony in Opposition to HB1490

Submitted by Sandy Hansen, resident of Barnes County, ND

I would like to encourage the committee to give this bill a “Do Not Pass” recommendation.

I don't understand why this would have to be put into Century Code. Our school districts already have procedures in place for staff – leave the control to local elected school boards who meet on a regular basis.

Why is this targeting only school counselors who have master's degrees in their field of study and years of professional development to support self-care, and prescribed ethical practices? As far as the proposed psychological evaluations go – who is doing those evaluations, what is their background in these studies, and who is paying for it? And every two years? What purpose is this serving?

PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB1490 – it is bad for school counselors and bad for local control. Thank you.