

Samantha Harrison

Regarding Senate Bill 2105

March 10th, 2025

Dear Chairman Heinert and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Samantha Harrison, a constituent of District 34 in Mandan. I am writing to express my concern and to urge a **Do Not Pass** recommendation and a **No** vote on Senate Bill 2105.

I am deeply disappointed that the Senate voted to move this legislation through to the House, and I am hopeful that you will come to a more sensible conclusion on this bill, which would be a Do Not Pass recommendation.

While I do not currently work in Public Health, that field is the reason I moved to North Dakota five years ago and am happy to call this state my home. Public Health professionals rely greatly on data from surveys like the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to identify problems facing youths and develop and recommend strategies to make those problems better. This is how we know that vaping is a problem in certain age groups, how we know that mental health is a big concern for others, and how we're able to attack a problem with this data.

I have used YRBS data in both my educational and professional life—I even remember taking the YRBS survey occasionally as a student in K-12 school. I believe that the opposition to surveys like the YRBS and the introduction of this bill comes from the same place as culture war topics like wanting to charge librarians with crimes, and like that bill, this bill is a waste of time and has no basis in actual concern. A parent has always had the ability to opt-out of having the survey administered to their child, and it is very easy to do. All switching to an opt-in format for surveys like the YRBS will do is damage the good that comes from collecting this data.

I am asking that the Committee recommend a **Do Not Pass on SB 2105**.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Samantha K. Harrison
Constituent - District 34