

Good morning Mr., Chairman and members of the Human Services Committee.

My name is Doug Osowski, District 42, Grand Forks

HB 1562 - Is a comprehensive training and professional development program for teachers, administrators, and ancillary staff within school districts. The program is focused on youth behavioral health and child abuse and neglect, ensuring that school personnel are well-equipped to handle these sensitive and crucial matters.

Here's a summary of the key points:

Training Requirements:

- **Frequency:** Every two years.
- **Duration:** Minimum of eight hours of professional development.
- **Audience:** Elementary, middle, and high school teachers, administrators, and ancillary staff.
- **Content Areas:**
 - Trauma
 - Social and emotional learning, including resiliency
 - Suicide prevention
 - Bullying
 - Understanding the impact of youth behavioral health wellness on family structure, education, juvenile services, law enforcement, and healthcare
 - Knowledge of behavioral health symptoms and risks
 - Awareness of referral sources and evidence-based intervention strategies
 - Evidence-based strategies to reduce risk factors
 - Current or new evidence-based behavior prevention or mitigation techniques

Behavioral Health Resource Coordinator:

- Each school must designate an individual as a behavioral health resource coordinator.
- The superintendent of public instruction will collaborate with regional education associations to provide training materials, information, and training opportunities.
- Contact information for the behavioral health resource coordinator must be maintained.

Mandated Reporter Training:

- Before initial licensure and each renewal, public and nonpublic school teachers, administrators, and counselors must complete the online interactive training module for mandated reporters of suspected child abuse or neglect.
- Training is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services and qualifies for continuing education credits for license renewal.

This structured approach aims to equip educators with the necessary knowledge and tools to support student well-being effectively and fulfill their responsibilities as mandated reporters of child abuse or neglect.

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Human Services Committee, I ask for your support of HB 1562.

Thank you.