

Dear Members of the Industry and Business Committee,

My name is Alana, and as a young adult living in North Dakota, I'm writing to express my strong support for SB 2200. Mental health impacts so many of us, especially young people like me who are working to build our futures while navigating challenges such as stress, anxiety, and feelings of isolation.

The 988 crisis hotline has been a game-changer for North Dakotans, providing free, confidential support for anyone in need. For young people, it's a vital resource that makes reaching out for help easier, especially when other options may feel out of reach.

The growing demand for 988 services highlights the urgent need to ensure this program has adequate, consistent, and reliable funding. Expanding the program's resources will allow it to keep up with call volumes and ensure that all North Dakotans, including young adults, can access the help they need without delay.

Without this support, we risk leaving people without someone to turn to during their most difficult moments. Supporting SB 2200 is more than just funding a program—it's an investment in the health and well-being of our communities and the future of North Dakota.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important legislation. I urge you to vote in favor of SB 2200 and help ensure that everyone in our state has access to lifesaving support when they need it most.

Sincerely,  
Alana Bozell