

SCR 4018: Interim Study of the use of Seclusion and Restraint in the Schools

Education Committee

February 18, 2016
Roughrider Room
Senator Don Schaible, Chair

Chairman Schaible and Members of the Committee, my name is Christine Hogan. I am an attorney for the Protection and Advocacy Project [P&A]. The Protection & Advocacy Project is an independent state agency whose mission is to advocate for the disability-related rights of persons with disabilities. We also act to protect persons with disabilities from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

P&A advocates for students with disabilities to receive disability-related education services consistent with state and federal laws. One of our roles is to support students, parents, and educators in advocating for students' needs and ensuring students' rights under the law.

At your last meeting on November 24, 2015, we recommended bringing together a statewide stakeholder group for the purpose of providing this committee with information and recommendations appropriate for our state. You indicated you would be willing to accept input from such an advisory group. I am here today to bring this committee up to date on the progress of efforts to develop a stakeholder list and to pull together the individuals who can work together to build a coalition and make consensus recommendations for this committee.

We have moved forward with entering into a contract with a neutral nonprofit consulting group which has a long and successful track record of bringing divergent groups to the table to hammer out consensus positions on major policy issues in our state. With their help, we have now developed a comprehensive list of

entities and individuals who have leadership roles, experience, and expertise in the field of education as well as entities and individuals who are likely to be interested in or potentially impacted by adoption of seclusion and restraint legislation. We remain open to additional suggestions regarding participants. As we move forward with these activities, we will continue to keep the committee informed.

Seclusion & Restraint in Schools Stakeholder Group Membership ideas

Department of Public Instruction
ND School Board Association
ND Center for Persons with Disabilities
DHS-Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities
DHS-Dept. of Children & Family Services
North Dakota United
ND Council of Educational Leaders
School Personnel
 Principals-Elementary & Secondary
 Special Education Directors
 School Psychologists
 School Resource Officer
 School Counselor
 Superintendent
Student/Parent
Legislators
Tribal school representation
Protection & Advocacy
Mental Health America
Federation of Families of Children's Mental Health
Pathfinder Parent Center
Family Voices of North Dakota
The Arc of North Dakota