

Introduced by

Senator Grabinger

Representative Satrom

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for the creation of a task force on the prevention of sexual abuse of
2 children; and to provide a report to the legislative management.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. TASK FORCE ON PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN -**
5 **REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNOR.**

6 1. During the 2017-18 interim, a task force on the prevention of sexual abuse of children
7 shall gather information concerning child sexual abuse throughout the state and
8 develop recommendations for legislation to reduce child sexual abuse.

9 2. The task force consists of the following members:

10 a. One member of the senate and one member of the public, appointed by the
11 senate majority leader;

12 b. One member of the senate and one member of the public, appointed by the
13 senate minority leader;

14 c. One member of the house of representatives and one member of the public,
15 appointed by the house majority leader;

16 d. One member of the house of representatives and one member of the public,
17 appointed by the house minority leader;

18 e. The director of the department of human services or a designee of the director;

19 f. A representative of an agency that leads the collaboration of the investigation,
20 prosecution, and treatment of child sexual and physical abuse cases, appointed
21 by the director of the department of human services;

22 g. A representative of an organization involved in the prevention of child abuse,
23 appointed by the director of the department of human services;

24 h. The superintendent of public instruction or a designee of the superintendent;

Sixty-fifth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 i. The state health officer or a designee of the state health officer;
- 2 j. A representative of law enforcement, appointed by the attorney general; and
- 3 k. A representative of North Dakota united, appointed by the president of North
- 4 Dakota united.
- 5 2. The task force shall elect a presiding officer by a majority vote of the membership of
- 6 the task force. The task force shall meet at the call of the presiding officer.
- 7 3. The task force shall:
- 8 a. Gather information concerning child sexual abuse throughout the state;
- 9 b. Receive reports and testimony from individuals, state and local agencies,
- 10 community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations;
- 11 c. Create goals for state policy that would prevent child sexual abuse; and
- 12 d. Submit a final report with its recommendations to the governor and the legislative
- 13 management.
- 14 4. The recommendations of the task force may include proposals for specific statutory
- 15 changes and methods to foster cooperation among state agencies and between the
- 16 state and local governments in adopting and implementing a policy addressing sexual
- 17 abuse of children which may include age-appropriate curriculum for students in
- 18 prekindergarten through grade five; training for school personnel on child sexual
- 19 abuse; educational information to parents or guardians provided in school handbooks
- 20 regarding the warning signs of a child being abused, along with any needed
- 21 assistance, referral, or resource information; available counseling and resources for
- 22 students affected by sexual abuse; and emotional and educational support for a child
- 23 of abuse to continue to be successful in school.