

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1262**

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Jones, Paulson, Schauer

Senator Clemens

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-12 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the ~~establishment of a school safety and crisis hotline~~  
3 ~~program~~ expansion of existing school safety and crisis reporting programs; and to provide for a  
4 continuing appropriation.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **School safety and crisis ~~hotline program~~ reporting programs - Confidentiality of**  
9 **records - Continuing appropriation.**

10 ~~1. The attorney general shall establish and administer a statewide program for receiving~~  
11 ~~reports and other information related to school and student safety, including potential~~  
12 ~~self-harm and potential harm or criminal acts directed at students, school employees,~~  
13 ~~or schools. The program must:~~

14 ~~a. Establish a method to ensure the identity of an individual providing information~~  
15 ~~remains unknown to all persons, including law enforcement officers and~~  
16 ~~employees of the program;~~

17 ~~b. Establish a method whereby information obtained from an individual who~~  
18 ~~voluntarily discloses that individual's own identity and which verifies the individual~~  
19 ~~is willing to be identified may be shared with law enforcement officers, employees~~  
20 ~~operating the program, and school officials;~~

21 ~~c. Establish a method to ensure, if the identity of an individual who is providing~~  
22 ~~information becomes known, whether through voluntary disclosure or other~~  
23 ~~means, the identity is not further disclosed;~~

- 1 ~~d. Assist law enforcement agencies and other public safety organizations in the~~  
2 ~~detection of dangerous, violent, or criminal activities and in the apprehension of~~  
3 ~~offenders or at-risk persons by promptly forwarding information received to the~~  
4 ~~appropriate law enforcement agency, public safety agency, and school officials;~~  
5 ~~e. Encourage state and local media providers to promote the program by informing~~  
6 ~~the public of its functions and benefits;~~  
7 ~~f. Include a crisis hotline that must be available to receive reports and information~~  
8 ~~twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week;~~  
9 ~~g. Establish a means for an individual to anonymously report:~~  
10 ~~(1) Incidents of bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, or hazing; and~~  
11 ~~(2) Incidents of physical or sexual abuse committed by a school employee or~~  
12 ~~school volunteer;~~  
13 ~~h. Include crisis intervention, including suicide prevention, to individuals~~  
14 ~~experiencing emotional distress or psychiatric distress;~~  
15 ~~i. Provide program awareness and education materials to all preschool,~~  
16 ~~elementary, and secondary schools in the state at no charge to the schools; and~~  
17 ~~j. Provide students and staff at a school that has experienced a crisis, emergency,~~  
18 ~~or suicide access to counseling and other resources to assist in recovering from~~  
19 ~~the crisis, emergency, or suicide.~~  
20 1. The attorney general shall encourage and promote the use of statewide and  
21 locally-selected school safety and crisis reporting programs.  
22 2. If funding becomes available, the attorney general may:  
23 a. Expand a statewide program to include tailored reporting mechanisms targeted to  
24 incidents of bullying and physical or sexual abuse; and  
25 b. Conduct outreach to promote awareness of statewide or locally-selected school  
26 safety and crisis reporting programs.  
27 2.3. All records or information related to the operation of ~~this program required under the~~  
28 programs described in subsection 1 are exempt records as defined in section  
29 44-04-18.1.  
30 3.4. The attorney general may seek and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any  
31 source for the purpose of carrying out its duties under this section. All moneys

- 1           received as gifts, grants, and donations are appropriated to the attorney general on a  
2           continuing basis for the purpose of carrying out this section.  
3 |    4.5.   The attorney general shallmay adopt rules necessary to administer the duties required  
4           to carry out this section.