



State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council 2024 Legislative Priorities

Mental Health in Schools

Modify Iowa Code §281-14.4 to implement Behavioral Health Resource (BHR) Coordinators in every Iowa middle and high school who will provide schools access to accurate mental health resources to support students and families. These duties can be assigned to an existing staff member.

Student Representation on School Boards

Support HF658, a bill authorizing boards of directors of school districts to appoint student liaisons to their boards. This bill would ensure school boards attention to students' needs as well as advance student engagement, civic education and overall community involvement.

School Substance Abuse Response

Amend Iowa Code §279.9 to include rehabilitation as an option for substance abuse response in schools, in addition to the already stated options of expulsion and suspension. This change would assist students in recovering from addiction.

**For more information. contact
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