

## 2026 Legislative Priorities

### Mental Health Resource Accessibility

Ensure every school provides clear, easy to find mental health resources on their websites so students can quickly access support when they need it the most.



### Student Representation on School Boards

Support Senate File 86 to allow school boards to bring on student representatives. This helps ensure students have a real voice in the decisions that affect them.

### Permitted Civic Engagement Absence

Create a policy that gives high school students an excused absence to take part in civic activities. This helps students get real experience with civic involvement.



**About the State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (SIYAC):** SIYAC connects Iowa youth ages 14-20 with state leaders to advise and advocate on policies affecting young people and families. Established in 2001, SIYAC was codified in Iowa Code §216A.140(8) in 2009.



[hhs.iowa.gov/SIYAC](https://hhs.iowa.gov/SIYAC)  
OR scan the QR Code

**For more information or suggestion, please contact:**

Aleena Wittenburg, SIYAC Chair:  
[aleenarwittenburg@gmail.com](mailto:aleenarwittenburg@gmail.com)

*This content represents the opinions of youth in the State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council and does not reflect the opinions of the State of Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.*