



## 2025 South Dakota Legislature

# House Bill 1077

Introduced by: **Representative Garcia**

1 **An Act to provide for the inclusion of education regarding mental health in the South**  
2 **Dakota health education standards.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-33:**

5 When the South Dakota Board of Education Standards undertakes a revision of the  
6 health education standards, in accordance with § 13-3-48, the board shall, after consulting  
7 with mental health experts, incorporate the following into the health education standards:

8 (1) Understanding mental health problems and gaining an awareness of the myths and  
9 realities of mental illness;

10 (2) Understanding the relationship between mental health and an individual's overall  
11 health;

12 (3) Destigmatizing mental illness and improving attitudes toward seeking help for  
13 mental health problems;

14 (4) Tools for maintaining mental health wellness;

15 (5) Common mental health conditions and evidence-based practices that may be used  
16 to overcome mental health challenges;

17 (6) Recognizing signs and symptoms of mental illness;

18 (7) Employing positive coping techniques to address stress that does not rise to a level  
19 requiring professional treatment, but if left unattended, may lead to mental illness;  
20 and

21 (8) Using professional resources available to students to address mental health issues  
22 affecting a student or member of a student's family.