



2026 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1187

Introduced by: **Representative** Fitzgerald

1 **An Act to add coaches to the list of mandatory reporters of child abuse or neglect.**

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

3 **Section 1. That § 26-8A-3 be AMENDED:**

4 **26-8A-3.** Any physician, dentist, doctor of osteopathy, chiropractor, optometrist,
 5 emergency medical technician, paramedic, mental health professional or counselor,
 6 podiatrist, psychologist, religious healing practitioner, social worker, hospital intern or
 7 resident, parole or court services officer, law enforcement officer, coach, teacher, school
 8 counselor, school official, nurse, licensed or registered child welfare provider, employee
 9 or volunteer of a domestic abuse shelter, employee or volunteer of a child advocacy
 10 organization or child welfare service provider, chemical dependency counselor, coroner,
 11 dental hygienist, or any safety-sensitive position as defined in § 3-6C-1, who has
 12 reasonable cause to suspect that a child under the age of eighteen has been abused or
 13 neglected, ~~as defined in § 26-8A-2,~~ shall report that information in accordance with §§ 26-
 14 8A-6, 26-8A-7, and 26-8A-8. Any person who intentionally fails to make the required
 15 report is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any person who knows or has reason to suspect
 16 that a child has been abused or neglected as defined in § 26-8A-2 may report that
 17 information as provided in § 26-8A-8.