



2026 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1187

HOUSE ENGROSSED

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 of a school
 8 activity, teacher, school counselor, school official, nurse, licensed or registered child
 9 welfare provider, employee or volunteer of a domestic abuse shelter, employee or
 10 volunteer of a child advocacy organization or child welfare service provider, chemical
 11 dependency counselor, coroner, dental hygienist, or any safety-sensitive position as
 12 defined in § 3-6C-1, who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child under the age of
 13 eighteen has been abused or neglected, as defined in § 26-8A-2, shall report that
 14 information in accordance with §§ 26-8A-6, 26-8A-7, and 26-8A-8. Any person who
 15 intentionally fails to make the required report is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any
 16 person who knows or has reason to suspect that a child has been abused or neglected as
 17 defined in § 26-8A-2 may report that information as provided in § 26-8A-8.