



## 2020 South Dakota Legislature

# House Bill 1167

Introduced by: **Representative** Chris Johnson

1 **An Act to revise provisions regarding confidential communications between a**  
 2 **student and certain school employees.**

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

4 **Section 1.** That a NEW SECTION be added:

5 **13-10-19. Communications--Student and counselor, psychologist, or social**  
 6 **worker--Exceptions.**

7 A counselor or school psychologist, certificated in accordance with the certification  
 8 rules of the South Dakota Board of Education Standards, or social worker licensed under  
 9 chapter 36-26, who is regularly employed as a counselor, school psychologist, or social  
 10 worker for a private or public elementary or secondary school or school system in this  
 11 state, may not disclose to any other person any information or communication exchanged  
 12 between a student who is an unemancipated minor and the counselor, school psychologist,  
 13 or social worker in the counselor's, school psychologist's, or social worker's official capacity  
 14 unless a custodial parent or legal guardian of the student permits the disclosure in writing.

15 Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, a counselor, school  
 16 psychologist, and social worker shall disclose to a custodial parent or legal guardian of a  
 17 student who is an unemancipated minor any information or communication between the  
 18 student and the counselor, school psychologist, or social worker, unless the counselor,  
 19 school psychologist, or social worker has reason to suspect the student may have been  
 20 subjected to child abuse by that parent or legal guardian.

21 **Section 2.** That § 26-8A-15 be AMENDED:

22 **26-8A-15. Communications not privileged in child abuse or neglect cases.**

23 The privilege of confidentiality set forth in §§ 13-10-19, 19-2-3, 19-19-503, 19-  
 24 19-504, ~~19-19-508.1,~~ and 36-26-30 may not be claimed in any judicial proceeding  
 25 involving an alleged abused or neglected child or resulting from the giving or causing the

1 giving of a report concerning abuse or neglect of a child pursuant to §§ 26-8A-3 to 26-  
2 8A-8, inclusive.

3 **Section 3.** That § 19-19-508.1 be REPEALED.

4 **19-19-508.1. Student and counselor, psychologist, or social worker--**  
5 **Exceptions.**