

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SEVENTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2002

553H0171

HOUSE BILL NO. 1132

Introduced by: Representatives Michels, Clark, Davis, Hanson (Gary), Heineman, Hunhoff, McCoy, Pitts, Van Etten, and Van Gerpen and Senators Greenfield, Brown (Arnold), Craddock, McIntyre, Moore, Olson (Ed), and Reedy

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish a Children's Mental Health Task Force.

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

3 Section 1. There is hereby established the Children's Mental Health Task Force. The task
4 force shall evaluate the current mental health care system for children in South Dakota and
5 provide recommendations for improvement to the mental health care system for children in a
6 report to the Seventy-eighth Legislature. The evaluation by the task force shall include the
7 following areas within the children's mental health system:

8 (1) Gaps in the continuum of services;

9 (2) Current service capacity;

10 (3) Efficacy of early identification and intervention;

11 (4) National best practices;

12 (5) Alternatives to relinquishing custody to obtain out-of-home mental health services;

13 and

14 (6) Barriers to service delivery, such as professional shortages, funding adequacy, and



1 access in rural areas.

2 Section 2. The Children's Mental Health Task Force may not exceed twenty members. The
3 Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council shall appoint one senator and one
4 representative to the Children's Mental Health Task Force. The secretary of Human Services
5 shall appoint no more than eighteen members to the Children's Mental Health Task Force. The
6 secretary's appointments shall include family members of children receiving mental health
7 services; provider agency representatives such as mental health centers, residential treatment
8 programs, inpatient programs, and professionals working with children; representatives of
9 advocacy organizations; and representatives of the Department of Human Services, the
10 Department of Education and Cultural Affairs, the Department of Social Services, the
11 Department of Corrections, and the Unified Judicial System.