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Proposed legislation in Kansas (HB 2420) would require parental consent before school counselors can provide Tier 2 or Tier 3 mental health support to students.

What this means for kids:

Students who ask for help may be told to wait.
Early intervention is delayed by paperwork.
Students who don't feel safe disclosing at home may stop asking.
Support becomes reactive instead of preventative.

And this does not impact students equally.

The students who need school counselors the most, those who are already high-risk, experiencing trauma, family instability, mental health stigma, or fear of punishment at home, are the very students most likely to lose access to support.

This legislation creates barriers, blind spots, and delays.
When access to help is restricted, problems don't disappear. They escalate.

This doesn't protect students.
It increases risk and sends a dangerous message: "Help comes with conditions."

Janey Rens