

Regarding Bill HB2420:

My name is Tina Wohler.

Contact information: wohler@usd376.com

Bill HB2420

I am an opponent of the bill.

I am currently a school counselor at Sterling Junior/Senior High School. Previously, I worked with college students. I have over thirty years of experience working with junior high – college age students. I have seen over and over how important it is for students to be able to confidentially approach trusted adults with issues/problems they are struggling with. If school employees, specifically Guidance Counselors and School Counselors, have to refrain from offering services to a student until written and verbal consent is obtained from a parent, students will be at great risk of increased self-harm and suicidality. Many times, issues students are wrestling with involve family members and they have difficulty or feel unsafe talking to them about their issues. This bill will greatly endanger students' mental health and prevent school counselors to provide appropriate care and support. I strongly urge you to oppose this bill as it is currently written.

Date of hearing: Jan. 22 at 1:30pm