

OPPOSED HB0132 Health – Mental and Emotional Disorders – Consent
(Mental Health Access Initiative)

Dear Committee Members,

Please **OPPOSE** HB0132 Health – Mental and Emotional Disorders – Consent
(Mental Health Access Initiative)

I fully appreciate the intention of this bill and agree that this is a serious problem in our state, especially this year.

But, pretending that a law somehow equips a 12-year-old child to operate in the adult world does not sound like the best solution to this real problem. 12-year-old children just DO NOT have the same capacity as an adult. This bill sets them up to fail.

Instead of trying to turn a 12-year-old child into an adult, I would like to see the state meet the children where they are, and support more school-based counseling, where there are more checks and balances to protect the minor child.

Thank You for reading and considering. Take Care,
Sarah Cusack
District 14