

I am writing to request your support of HB 2441.

I am a school social worker who took over the comprehensive school counseling program when my predecessor--a school counselor--resigned a little over two years ago. I can assure you that school social workers are well-trained and perfectly competent to implement the CSCF.

I have consistently received positive feedback from my colleagues and administrators, as well as students and families, with regard to what I bring to this role and to our school.

We school social workers often have additional training above and beyond what might be found in school counseling programs in areas of equity and social justice, as well as understanding the ways in which families and systems are impacting our students. Those of us with backgrounds in mental health, like myself, have intimate knowledge of community supports and resources, as well as the inner workings of the mental health system, which we can use to partner with community resources to support our students' needs.

I love my role and would love to see more well-qualified school social workers implementing the CSCF throughout the state.

Warm regards,
Shannon Sell