

Support for HB4145
February 10, 2020

My name is Hilary Uhlig and I am submitting written support for HB 4145 - Addressing Threats to Schools and Places of Worship.

It is a sad fact that we live in a society where there is no safe place from the threat of violence. Malls, movie theaters, grocery stores... have all been places of mass shootings and threats of violence. While we cannot stop all threats from happening, there are some places that we should make every effort to mitigate the effects of possible violence. Our children and teachers should be able to go to schools without fear. Our community members should be able to go to their places of worship without fear.

HB 4145 will prevent an escalation of violent behavior when someone makes threats of violence to a school or place of worship by ensuring those individuals gain access to mental health treatment and supervised probation. This bill establishes funding for the services so that the county budget is not the deciding factor on who gets mental health treatment and supervision.

As the instances threats and violent behavior increases, the need to provide for mental health and other forms of intervention and supervision becomes all the more necessary. I urge you to support HB 4145.

Thank you.