



NEWS

From the Illinois Senate

State Senator Dave Koehler

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Further information:

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Koehler Protects Social Workers and Student Privacy

SPRINGFIELD—State Senator David Koehler (D-Peoria) is sponsoring legislation to protect school social workers, counselors, and psychologists who refuse to divulge confidential student information.

Senate Bill 1508 prohibits schools from punishing or discriminating against social workers, counselors, and psychologists who refuse to share privileged or confidential student information. This measure was inspired by the story of a school social worker who was fired for refusing to share privileged information she discussed with a student.

“Psychologists, counselors, and social workers who disclose privileged information can lose their licenses,” said Koehler. “Perhaps more importantly, they lose the trust of the children they are trying to help. These people should never be forced to choose between their professional ethics and their jobs.”

Senate Bill 1508 has passed the Illinois Senate and awaits consideration by the House.

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