

## House File 362

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- A bill establishing comprehensive school mental health services lead positions (one for students and one for teachers and school staff) at the Minnesota Department of Education
- Minnesota, unlike most other states, does not have a permanently funded lead mental health position for students at a department of education
- Minnesota would be one of the first states to have a permanently funded lead mental health position for teachers and school staff at a department of education
- The bill has been heard since the 19-20 legislative session, and our students, teachers and school staff need these crucial positions at MDE now more than ever
- NAMI (letter of support available) and EdMN are supporters
- Last session's supporters included:
  - MN chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
  - Ed Allies
  - Mental Health MN
  - MN School Social Worker's Association
  - Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative
- MN Safe Learning Survey (2021) found that state level support for mental health is needed. Specifically, there was widespread consensus across educators, families and students that mental health is a significant concern and that teaching and learning environments need to be changed to better support mental health of students and teachers.
- MN Principals Survey (2021) found that student and staff mental health concerns are the most significant ongoing challenges schools are facing, and that the most helpful supports would be mental health resources for students and staff.

