

**Senate File 2339 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2339

BY CELSI

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to excused absences for public school district  
2 student mental health days.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 299.1, Code 2022, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. The board of directors of a public  
4 school district shall excuse up to three days in a school  
5 year for a student in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve for  
6 mental health. The absence shall be excused if the student's  
7 school receives notification of the absence prior to the start  
8 of regularly scheduled school hours for the day the absence  
9 is being taken. The board of directors of a public school  
10 district shall not require a doctor's note or other evidence  
11 of the purpose of the absence.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill requires the board of directors of a public school  
16 district to excuse up to three days in a school year for a  
17 student in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 for mental health if the  
18 student notifies the student's school of the absence prior to  
19 the start of regularly scheduled school hours for the day the  
20 absence is being taken. The board of directors of a public  
21 school district shall not require a doctor's note or other  
22 evidence of the purpose of the absence.