

Rep. Neubauer: Youth access to mental health care can't wait

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MADISON — Multiple bills and resolutions relating to health care were addressed on the Assembly floor in Session today, including 2019 AB 644, creating a pilot program for youth mental health care access in schools. Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statement:

“Over my last two years in office, I have heard over and over from my constituents that we need to prioritize affordable, accessible, and comprehensive health care in all of its forms. Today, I was proud to continue to advocate for expanded access to mental health care in all of Wisconsin’s schools.

“Too often, a mental health crisis turns into a permanent tragedy because of a lack of access to care. In Racine, we have been lucky to have people pushing back against the stigma and advocating for access to care, including NAMI Racine and youth anti-bullying advocate Alex Hart-Upendo. It’s past time that we follow their examples and get rid of the stigma surrounding mental health treatment, starting in our schools.

“As a state, we need to take more concrete steps to address comprehensive health care access. Today, the Assembly passed legislation supporting a single-county pilot program, but all of our young people should have access to the care they need,” Neubauer concluded. “We must act to expand mental health care access in schools across Wisconsin.”