

WHAT IS HOUSE BILL 1834?



House Bill 1834, passed in the 2022 Legislative Session, allows students to be excused for mental health services that include behavioral therapy, substance abuse treatment, learning disorders, and grief counseling.

WHAT IS MENTAL HEALTH STIGMA?

- Mental health stigma refers to the negative and unfair beliefs, attitudes, and stereotypes that individuals or society may hold about mental health conditions.
- It can lead to discrimination, bias, and marginalization of people with mental health issues.

DID YOU KNOW?



Ten states have already passed this law including Utah, Oregon and Arizona.



Failure to excuse absences may result in jail time. Excusing mental health-related absences helps prevent incarceration for individuals who miss school due to mental health reasons.

HOW DID HOUSE BILL 1834 PASS?

The Washington State Legislature Youth Advisory Council (LYAC) worked with Representative Lisa Callan (D-5) and Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos (D-37) to introduce and pass HB 1834 during the 2022 legislative session.

Students across the state testified in support of the bill, sharing their personal experiences with mental health struggles.

The bill received bipartisan support, passing both chambers unanimously.