

**OPEN LETTER ON THE  
MENTAL HEALTH ACTION ON CAMPUS ACT  
ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION - FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL**



**DR. SUSAN D. WIEDIGER ON BEHALF OF THE FAC, 15 MARCH 2022**



**PUBLIC ACT 101-0251**  
**MENTAL HEALTH EARLY ACTION ON CAMPUS ACT**

Signed by Governor Pritzker in August 2019

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/billstatus.asp?DocNum=2152&GAID=15&GA=101&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=117837&SessionID=108&SpecSess>

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Focused on three aspects of the Act

- ▶ Peer support
- ▶ Health care ratios
- ▶ Technical assistance center

## PEER SUPPORT

Use a peer-mentoring approach, rather than expect therapist level skills from undergraduates

# HEALTH CARE RATIOS

Establish minimum access of standard physical and mental health care rather than focus on a counselor:student ratio.

- ▶ Support for telehealth options critical for rural and diverse populations

# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

## Encourage sharing best practices

- ▶ IBHE is the logical host due to their expertise in data handling and existing connections in higher education
- ▶ Could necessitate an IBHE position with relevant expertise

## PURPOSES OF THE OPEN LETTER

- ▶ Identifies issues that resonate across diverse institutions
- ▶ Available as needed for faculty, staff, administrators, legislators, and others



# THANK YOU

Your Faculty Advisory Council appreciates your time  
and welcomes questions or suggestions