

SENATE BILL NO. 2384

Introduced by

Senator Watne

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 50-25.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to notification of child abuse and neglect assessments.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 50-25.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **50-25.1-05. Assessment.** The department, in accordance with rules adopted by the
7 department, immediately shall initiate an assessment, or cause an assessment, of any report of
8 child abuse or neglect including, when appropriate, the assessment of the home or the
9 residence of the child, any school or child care facility attended by the child, and the
10 circumstances surrounding the report of abuse or neglect. If the report alleges a violation of a
11 criminal statute involving sexual or physical abuse, the department and an appropriate law
12 enforcement agency shall coordinate the planning and execution of their investigation efforts to
13 avoid a duplication of factfinding efforts and multiple interviews. The department or appropriate
14 law enforcement agency may interview, without the consent of a person responsible for the
15 child's welfare, the alleged abused or neglected child and any other child who currently resides
16 or who has resided with the person responsible for the child's welfare or the alleged perpetrator.
17 The department or law enforcement agency may conduct the interview at a school, child care
18 facility, or any other place where the alleged abused or neglected child or other child is found.
19 Upon the completion of the assessment, the department, by certified mail, shall notify each
20 parent or the guardian of the child that an assessment has been conducted, the outcome of the
21 assessment, and any recommendation that resulted from the assessment.