

HOUSE BILL NO. 1351

Introduced by

Representatives Delmore, Dosch, Hawken

Senators Cook, Flakoll, Holmberg

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 19-03.1-22.2 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to exposure of children or vulnerable adults to controlled substances; and to provide a
3 penalty.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 19-03.1-22.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
6 enacted as follows:

7 **19-03.1-22.2. Endangerment of child or vulnerable adult.**

8 1. For purposes of this section:

9 a. "Chemical substance" means a substance intended to be used as a precursor
10 in the manufacture of a controlled substance or any other chemical intended
11 to be used in the manufacture of a controlled substance. Intent under this
12 subsection may be demonstrated by the substance's use, quantity, manner of
13 storage, or proximity to other precursors or to manufacturing equipment.

14 b. "Child" means an individual who is under the age of eighteen years.

15 c. "Controlled substance" means the same as that term is defined in section
16 19-03.1-01.

17 d. "Drug paraphernalia" means the same as that term is defined in section
18 19-03.4-01.

19 e. "Prescription" means the same as that term is described in section
20 19-03.1-22.

21 f. "Vulnerable adult" means either a disabled adult or vulnerable elderly adult as
22 those terms are defined in section 12.1-31-07.

23 2. Unless a greater penalty is otherwise provided by law, a person who knowingly or
24 intentionally causes or permits a child or vulnerable adult to be exposed to, to

- 1 ingest or inhale, or to have contact with a controlled substance, chemical
2 substance, or drug paraphernalia as defined in subsection 1, is guilty of a class C
3 felony.
- 4 3. Unless a greater penalty is otherwise provided by law, a person who violates
5 subsection 2, and a child or vulnerable adult actually suffers bodily injury,
6 substantial bodily injury, or serious bodily injury by exposure to, ingestion of,
7 inhalation of, or contact with a controlled substance, chemical substance, or drug
8 paraphernalia, is guilty of a class B felony unless the exposure, ingestion,
9 inhalation, or contact results in the death of the child or vulnerable adult, in which
10 case the person is guilty of a class A felony.
- 11 4. It is an affirmative defense to a violation of this section that the controlled
12 substance was provided by lawful prescription for the child or vulnerable adult and
13 that it was administered to the child or vulnerable adult in accordance with the
14 prescription instructions provided with the controlled substance.