

Sixty-second  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**SENATE BILL NO. 2305**

Introduced by

Senator Nelson

Representatives Hawken, Mock

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 27-20 of the North Dakota~~  
2 ~~Century Code, relating to transfers to extended jurisdiction juvenile court; and to amend and~~  
3 ~~reenact subsection 5 of section 27-20-24 and section 27-20-34 of the North Dakota Century~~  
4 ~~Code, relating to juvenile transfers to adult courts.~~ for an Act to provide for a legislative  
5 management study relating to the extension of juvenile court jurisdiction and the extent of  
6 juvenile court jurisdiction in other states.

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

8 ~~**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 5 of section 27-20-24 of the North Dakota Century~~  
9 ~~Code is amended and reenacted as follows:~~

10 ~~5. Hearings are open to the public if the purpose of the hearing is to declare a person in~~  
11 ~~contempt of court or to consider a petition alleging an offense identified under~~  
12 ~~subdivisions subdivisions b and c of subsection 1 of section 27-20-34 or subsection 2 of~~  
13 ~~section 27-20-34. The general public must be excluded from other hearings under this~~  
14 ~~chapter. In hearings from which the general public is excluded, only the parties, their~~  
15 ~~counsel, witnesses, victims, and any other persons the court finds have a proper~~  
16 ~~interest in the proceedings may be admitted by the court. The court may temporarily~~  
17 ~~exclude the child or other person from the hearing if, after being warned by the court~~  
18 ~~that disruptive conduct will cause removal from the courtroom, the child or other~~  
19 ~~person persists in conduct that justifies removal from the courtroom.~~

20 ~~**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 27-20-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is~~  
21 ~~amended and reenacted as follows:~~

22 ~~**27-20-34. Transfer to other adult courts.**~~

23 ~~1. After a petition has been filed alleging delinquency based on conduct which is~~  
24 ~~designated a crime or public offense under the laws, including local ordinances or~~

1           resolutions of this state, the court before hearing the petition on its merits shall transfer  
2           the offense for prosecution to the appropriate adult court having jurisdiction of the  
3           offense if:

4           ~~a. The child is over sixteen or more years of age and requests the transfer;~~

5           ~~b. The child was fourteen years of age or more at the time of the alleged conduct~~  
6           ~~and the court determines that there is probable cause to believe the child~~  
7           ~~committed the alleged delinquent act and the delinquent act involves the offense~~  
8           ~~of murder or attempted murder; gross sexual imposition or the attempted gross~~  
9           ~~sexual imposition of a victim by force or by threat of imminent death, serious~~  
10           ~~bodily injury, or kidnapping; or the manufacture, delivery, or possession with~~  
11           ~~intent to manufacture or deliver a controlled substance in violation of~~  
12           ~~subdivision a or b of subsection 1 of section 19-03.1-23, except for the~~  
13           ~~manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver~~  
14           ~~marijuana in an amount less than one pound [.45 kilogram]; or the gratuitous~~  
15           ~~delivery of a controlled substance not a narcotic drug or methamphetamine which~~  
16           ~~is a singular and isolated event involving an amount of controlled substance~~  
17           ~~sufficient solely for a single personal use; or~~

18           ~~c. A request is made by the prosecution to transfer the prosecution of the offense to~~  
19           ~~adult court, the child was fourteen years of age or more at the time of the alleged~~  
20           ~~conduct, and the court determines that there is probable cause to believe the~~  
21           ~~child committed the alleged delinquent act and the delinquent act involves the~~  
22           ~~offense of gross sexual imposition or the attempted gross sexual imposition of a~~  
23           ~~victim by force or by threat of imminent death, serious bodily injury, or kidnapping;~~  
24           ~~the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver of a~~  
25           ~~controlled substance in violation of subdivision a or b of subsection 1 of section~~  
26           ~~19-03.1-23, except for the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to~~  
27           ~~manufacture or deliver marijuana in an amount less than one pound [.45-~~  
28           ~~kilogram]; or the gratuitous delivery of a controlled substance not a narcotic drug~~  
29           ~~or methamphetamine which is a singular and isolated event involving an amount~~  
30           ~~of controlled substance sufficient solely for a single personal use; or~~

- 1 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ d. (1) The child was fourteen or more years of age at the time of the alleged-~~  
2 ~~conduct;~~
- 3 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (2) A hearing on whether the transfer should be made is held in conformity with-~~  
4 ~~sections 27-20-24, 27-20-26, and 27-20-27;~~
- 5 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (3) Notice in writing of the time, place, and purpose of the hearing is given to-~~  
6 ~~the child and the child's parents, guardian, or other custodian at least three-~~  
7 ~~days before the hearing; and~~
- 8 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (4) The court finds that there are reasonable groundsis probable cause to-~~  
9 ~~believe that:~~
- 10 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (a) The child committed the delinquent act alleged;~~
- 11 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (b) The child is not amenable to treatment or rehabilitation as a juvenile-~~  
12 ~~through available programs;~~
- 13 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (c) The child is not treatable in an institution for the mentally retarded or-~~  
14 ~~mentally ill;~~
- 15 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (d) The interests of the community require that the child be placed under-~~  
16 ~~legal restraint or discipline; and~~
- 17 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (e) If the child is fourteen or fifteen years old, the child committed a-~~  
18 ~~delinquent act involving the infliction or threat of serious bodily harm.~~
- 19 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 2. The burden of proving reasonable groundsprobable cause to believe that a child is-~~  
20 ~~amenable to treatment or rehabilitation as a juvenile through available programs is on-~~  
21 ~~the child in those cases in which the alleged delinquent act involves the offense of~~  
22 ~~manslaughter, aggravated assault, robbery, arson involving an inhabited structure, or~~  
23 ~~escape involving the use of a firearm, destructive device, or other dangerous weapon-~~  
24 ~~or in cases in which the alleged delinquent act involves an offense which if committed~~  
25 ~~by an adult would be a felony and the child has two or more previous delinquency-~~  
26 ~~adjudications for offenses which would be a felony if committed by an adult.~~
- 27 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 3. In determining a child's amenability to treatment and rehabilitation, the court shall-~~  
28 ~~consider and make specific findings on the following factors:~~
- 29 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. Age;~~
- 30 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. Mental capacity;~~
- 31 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. Maturity;~~

- ~~1 d. Degree of criminal sophistication exhibited;~~
- ~~2 e. Previous record;~~
- ~~3 f. Success or failure of previous attempts to rehabilitate;~~
- ~~4 g. Whether the juvenile can be rehabilitated prior to expiration of juvenile court~~  
~~5 jurisdiction;~~
- ~~6 h. Any psychological, probation, or institutional reports;~~
- ~~7 i. The nature and circumstances of the acts for which the transfer is sought;~~
- ~~8 j. The prospect for adequate protection of the public; and~~
- ~~9 k. Any other relevant factors.~~
- ~~10 4. Any transfer operates to terminate the juvenile court's jurisdiction over the child with~~  
~~11 respect to any future offense if the child is ultimately convicted of the offense giving~~  
~~12 rise to the transfer.~~
- ~~13 5. No child subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, either before or after reaching~~  
~~14 eighteen years of age, may be prosecuted for an offense previously committed unless~~  
~~15 the case has been transferred as provided in this section.~~
- ~~16 6. Statements made by the child at the hearing under this section are not admissible~~  
~~17 against the child over objection in the criminal proceedings following the transfer~~  
~~18 except for impeachment.~~
- ~~19 7. If the case is not transferred, the judge who conducted the hearing may not over~~  
~~20 objection of an interested party preside at the hearing on the petition. If the case is~~  
~~21 transferred to a court of which the judge who conducted the hearing is also a judge,~~  
~~22 the judge likewise is disqualified over objection from presiding in the prosecution.~~
- ~~23 8. A person at least twenty years of age who committed an offense while a child and was~~  
~~24 not adjudicated for the offense in juvenile court may be prosecuted in district court as~~  
~~25 an adult, unless the state intentionally delayed the prosecution to avoid juvenile court~~  
~~26 jurisdiction. The district court has original and exclusive jurisdiction for the prosecution~~  
~~27 under this subsection.~~
- ~~28 **SECTION 3.** A new section to chapter 27-20 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
~~29 and enacted as follows:~~

~~**Transfer to extended jurisdiction juvenile court.**~~

~~1. A proceeding involving a child alleged to have committed a delinquent act is an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution if:~~

~~a. The child was fourteen years of age or more at the time of the alleged offense, the prosecutor requested an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution, a transfer hearing was held on the issue, and the court designated the proceeding an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution; or~~

~~b. The child was fourteen years of age or more at the time of the alleged offense; the court, at a hearing, finds there is probable cause to believe the child committed the offense of gross sexual imposition or the attempted gross sexual imposition of a victim by force or by threat of imminent death, serious bodily injury, or kidnapping; the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver of a controlled substance in violation of subdivision a or b of subsection 1 of section 19-03.1-23, except for the manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture or deliver marijuana in an amount less than one pound [.45 kilogram]; or the gratuitous delivery of a controlled substance not a narcotic drug or methamphetamine which is a singular and isolated event involving an amount of controlled substance sufficient solely for a single personal use; and the prosecutor designated in the delinquency petition that the proceeding is an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution.~~

~~2. When a prosecutor requests extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution under subdivision a of subsection 1, the court shall hold a transfer hearing to consider the request. The transfer hearing must be held within thirty days of the filing of the request, unless good cause is shown by the prosecution or the child as to why the transfer hearing should not be held within this period in which case the transfer hearing shall be held within ninety days of the filing of the request. If the prosecutor shows that there is probable cause to believe the child committed the delinquent act alleged and public safety is served by extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution, the court shall grant the request for transfer. In determining whether public safety is served, the court may consider the factors specified in subsection 3 of section 27-20-34. The court shall decide whether to designate the proceeding an extended~~

~~jurisdiction juvenile prosecution within fifteen days after the transfer hearing is  
completed, unless additional time is needed, in which case the court may extend the  
period up to another fifteen days.~~

~~3. A child who is the subject of an extended jurisdiction juvenile prosecution has the right  
to a trial by jury and to the effective assistance of counsel.~~

**SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - JUVENILE COURT**

**JURISDICTION.** The legislative management shall consider studying, during the 2011-12  
interim, the issue of juvenile court jurisdiction and the adult court transfer process and whether  
any additional juvenile court jurisdictional extensions would serve the best interests of the child  
and the public in cases in which the child is close to the age of majority. The legislative  
management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation  
necessary to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-third legislative assembly.