

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

### ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1464

Introduced by

Representatives Dobervich, K. Anderson, Brown, Finley-DeVille, Hager, Hanson, Rohr,  
Steiner

Senators Hogan, Mathern

*In place of the amendments (25.0993.02002) adopted by the Senate, engrossed House Bill  
No. 1464 is amended by amendment (25.0993.02005) as follows:*

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-12 of the North Dakota-~~  
2 ~~Century Code, relating to postpartum doula certification; and to provide for a legislative-~~  
3 ~~management report.~~ for an Act to provide for a legislative management study relating to  
4 maternal care services.

#### 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

6 ~~—SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 23-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is created-~~  
7 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

8 ~~—Postpartum doula certification.~~

9 ~~—1. As used in this section:~~

10 ~~—a. "Certified doula" means an individual who has received a certification to perform-~~  
11 ~~doula services from the doulas of North America or an organization designated-~~  
12 ~~by the department.~~

13 ~~—b. "Department" means the department of health and human services.~~

14 ~~—c. "Doula services" means education and support services for a parent and child,-~~  
15 ~~including continuous emotional and physical support during the postpartum-~~  
16 ~~period, including up to six months after the birth of the child.~~

17 ~~—2. The department may:~~

18 ~~—a. Designate additional doula certification organizations;~~

19 ~~—b. Remove the designation of a doula certification organization; and~~

~~c. Adopt rules to implement and administer this section.~~

~~3. The department shall establish criteria for the designation of doula certification organizations and maintain a list of designated organizations on the department's website for purposes of facilitating the availability of certified doulas to provide doula services under section 2 of this Act.~~

~~4. The department may not impose a licensing or certification fee in addition to any fees imposed by a doula certification organization meeting the criteria established by the department.~~

~~**SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REPORT – POSTPARTUM DOULA**~~

~~**CERTIFICATION.** During the 2025-26 interim, the department of health and human services shall provide a report to the legislative management regarding postpartum doula certification, including the status of implementing and administering the responsibilities relating to postpartum doula certification under section 1 of this Act and the impact of certified doula services.~~

**SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - MATERNAL CARE SERVICES.**

1. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying maternal care services. The study must include:
  - a. An analysis of the availability of medical and nonmedical prenatal services in the state by community and geographic service area, and the utilization rate of each;
  - b. A review of childbirth service availability, including in-home and health care facility-based services, and the number of obstetrician-gynecologists and family practitioners routinely delivering babies by geographic service area;
  - c. A review of prenatal, childbirth, and postnatal services covered by public assistance, private insurance, and pregnancy resource centers, including an analysis of funding, program evaluation, and outcomes;
  - d. Consideration of previous studies related to maternal care services;
  - e. Consideration of maternal care resource and asset maps, service gaps, evidence-based or innovative pilot project solutions for resolving service gaps, and approaches for increasing the use of prenatal and postnatal care services and programs;

- 1           f.   An evaluation of ways to increase the number of obstetrician-gynecologists and
- 2           family practitioners practicing in the state;
- 3           g.   Exploration of processes for certifying, training, and reimbursing doula and
- 4           midwife services;
- 5           h.   Consideration of public assistance and private insurance policy opportunities to
- 6           improve maternal and infant health outcomes; and
- 7           i.   Input and consultation from key stakeholders, including:
  - 8           (1)   The university of North Dakota school of medicine and health sciences;
  - 9           (2)   The North Dakota maternal mortality review committee;
  - 10          (3)   The infant mortality review panel;
  - 11          (4)   The foundation for a healthy North Dakota;
  - 12          (5)   Doulas, midwives, and home-based service providers practicing in the state;
  - 13          (6)   The North American college of obstetricians and gynecology;
  - 14          (7)   The North Dakota medical association;
  - 15          (8)   The women, infants, and children program; and
  - 16          (9)   North Dakota health tracks.
- 17        2.   The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
- 18        with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth
- 19        legislative assembly.