

Fifty-seventh
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2330

Introduced by

Senators T. Mathern, Thane

Representative Fairfield

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 26.1-36 and a new section to
2 chapter 54-52.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to insurance coverage for
3 augmentative communication devices and services for children.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 26.1-36 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Health insurance policy and health service contract - Augmentative**
8 **communication device and service coverage for children.** An insurance company, a
9 nonprofit service corporation, or a health maintenance organization may not deliver, issue,
10 execute, or renew any health insurance policy, health service contract, or evidence of coverage
11 on an individual, group, blanket, franchise, or association basis unless the policy, contract, or
12 evidence of coverage provides coverage for augmentative communication devices and services
13 for any individual under age twenty-one who is covered under the policy if the devices are
14 prescribed by that individual's treating physician and speech-language pathologist. As used in
15 this section, "coverage" means payment subject only to general policy or contract provisions
16 that apply to the broad class of other covered equipment and services as to deductible
17 amounts, copayments, and other charges, but in any event, the individual is not responsible to
18 pay more than twenty percent of the negotiated cost.

19 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 54-52.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
20 created and enacted as follows:

21 **Insurance to cover augmentative communication devices and services for**
22 **children.** The board shall provide medical benefits coverage under a contract for insurance
23 pursuant to section 54-52.1-04 or under a self-insurance plan pursuant to section 54-52.1-04.2

- 1 for augmentative communication devices and services in the same manner as provided for
- 2 under section 1 of this Act.