

Introduced by

Human Services Committee

(At the request of the Department of Human Services)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 50-24.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to remedial eye care services coverage.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 50-24.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **50-24.1-06. Remedial eye care - When provided.** On the basis of the findings of an
7 examination made by an ophthalmologist, optometrist, or physician skilled in the diseases of
8 the eye, recommended remedial eye care services must be provided ~~by the department of~~
9 ~~human services~~ to any ~~person~~ individual under the age of sixty-five who is in need of ~~treatment~~
10 ~~either remedial eye care services to prevent blindness or to restore the person's eyesight~~ if the
11 ~~person~~ individual is not blind as defined under title XVI of the Social Security Act, ~~as amended,~~
12 [42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.], and the ~~person~~ individual is otherwise qualified for assistance under
13 this chapter. ~~The remedial eye care services may include necessary travel and other expenses~~
14 ~~to receive treatment from a hospital or clinic designated by the department.~~ Except for services
15 furnished in a medical emergency, the department may not pay for recommended remedial eye
16 care services unless the individual receiving those services first applies for and receives
17 authorization from the department. As used in this section, "remedial eye care services" mean
18 services to prevent blindness or to restore an individual's eyesight, but does not include
19 treatment of diseases causing an impairment or a loss of eyesight, such as diabetes and high
20 blood pressure, ordinary eye examinations, eye glasses, physical examinations, or travel and
21 other expenses necessary to receive treatment.