

**SENATE BILL NO. 2420**

Introduced by

Senators Warner, Erbele, Mathern

Representatives Ekstrom, Nelson

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for education and services to families in which the parents do not  
2 reside in the same household; to provide for a report; to provide a continuing appropriation; to  
3 provide an appropriation; and to provide an expiration date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Improved services to children and parents - Continuing**  
6 **appropriation.**

7 1. In addition to any other authority provided by law, the department of human  
8 services may develop or arrange for the provision of education and other services  
9 to families with minor children in which the parents do not reside in the same  
10 household for the purpose of assisting the families in amicably resolving issues  
11 pertaining to parenting of children in a way that promotes a healthy relationship  
12 between the child and each parent. The assistance may include pilot programs  
13 involving institutions of higher education, improved access to customer service,  
14 parenting information, and legal resources for parents who do not have an  
15 attorney.

16 2. In carrying out this section, the department of human services may employ staff,  
17 enter contracts with any public or private person, and incur expenses within the  
18 limits of legislative appropriation. The department of human services may create a  
19 fee schedule for services provided under this section and may receive grants or  
20 donations from public or private sources. Any grants or donations received are  
21 appropriated to the department of human services on a continuing basis for the  
22 purpose of providing services under this section.

23 **SECTION 2. IMPROVED SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND PARENTS - REPORT TO**  
24 **SIXTY-SECOND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** The department of human services shall

1 prepare and present a report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-second legislative  
2 assembly on the use of any funds appropriated under section 3 of this Act during the biennium  
3 beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.

4           **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the  
5 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$150,000, or so much  
6 of the sum as may be necessary, and any special funds derived from federal funds and other  
7 income, to the department of human services for the purpose of implementing section 1 of this  
8 Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.

9           **SECTION 4. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through July 31, 2011, and  
10 after that date is ineffective.