

Sixty-fourth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2367**

Introduced by

Senators Poolman, Marcellais, Rust

Representatives Delmore, Fehr, Larson

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for the creation of a task force on substance exposed newborns;  
2 and to provide for a report to the legislative management.

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

4 **SECTION 1. TASK FORCE ON SUBSTANCE EXPOSED NEWBORNS - MEMBERSHIP -**  
5 **DUTIES - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.**

6 1. The task force on substance exposed newborns is created for the purpose of  
7 researching the impact of substance abuse and neonatal withdrawal syndrome,  
8 evaluating effective strategies for treatment and prevention, and providing policy  
9 recommendations.

10 2. The task force consists of the following members:

11 a. The attorney general, or the attorney general's designee;

12 b. The executive director of the department of human services, or the executive  
13 director's designee;

14 c. A member of the senate, appointed by the legislative management;

15 d. A member of the house of representatives, appointed by the legislative  
16 management;

17 e. A state's attorney, appointed by the North Dakota association of counties;

18 f. A representative of the North Dakota medical association;

19 g. A representative of an addiction and recovery association, appointed by the  
20 attorney general;

21 h. A representative of the North Dakota chapter of the march of dimes;

22 i. A representative of prevent child abuse North Dakota;

23 j. The executive director of the Indian affairs commission, or the executive  
24 director's designee;

1 k. ~~A representative from each of the following tribes~~ Three enrolled tribal members  
2 representing tribes located in the state, appointed by the Indian affairs  
3 commission:

4 ~~(1) Standing Rock Sioux Tribe;~~

5 ~~(2) The Spirit Lake Tribe;~~

6 ~~(3) The Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation;~~

7 ~~(4) The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians; and~~

8 ~~(5) The Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe;~~

9 ~~l. A representative of the Trenton Indian service area, appointed by the Indian~~  
10 ~~affairs commission;~~

11 ~~m.l.~~ A representative of the department of human services with expertise in early  
12 intervention and Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act,  
13 appointed by the executive director of the department of human services;

14 ~~n.m.~~ A representative of law enforcement, appointed by the attorney general;

15 ~~o.n.~~ A representative of the foster care community, appointed by the executive  
16 director of the department of human services; ~~and~~

17 ~~p.o.~~ A county social services director, appointed by the executive director of the  
18 department of human services;

19 p. A neonatologist, appointed by the North Dakota academy of pediatrics; and

20 q. A neonatal intensive care unit nurse, appointed by the state board of nursing.

21 3. The attorney general, or the attorney general's designee, shall serve as the chairman  
22 of the task force. The task force shall meet at least quarterly. Additional meetings may  
23 be held at the discretion of the chairman.

24 4. The task force may request appropriate staff services from the department of human  
25 services.

26 5. The members of the task force who are not state employees or members of the  
27 legislative assembly are entitled to mileage and expenses as provided by law for state  
28 officers and employees. Unless otherwise provided in this subsection, the expenses of  
29 appointed members are to be paid by the department of human services. A state  
30 employee who is a member of the task force is entitled to receive that employee's  
31 regular salary and is entitled to mileage and expenses, to be paid by the employing

1 agency. The members of the task force who are members of the legislative assembly  
2 are entitled to compensation from the legislative council for attendance at task force  
3 meetings at the rate provided for members of the legislative assembly for attendance  
4 at interim committee meetings and are entitled to reimbursement for expenses  
5 incurred in attending the meetings in the amounts provided by law for other state  
6 officers.

7 6. The task force shall:

8 a. Collect and organize data concerning the nature and extent of neonatal  
9 withdrawal syndrome from substance abuse in this state;

10 b. Collect and organize data concerning the costs associated with treating  
11 expectant mothers and newborns suffering from withdrawal substance abuse;

12 c. Identify available federal, state, and local programs that provide services to  
13 mothers who abuse drugs or alcohol and newborns who have neonatal  
14 withdrawal syndrome and evaluate those programs and services to determine if  
15 gaps in programs or ineffective policies exist; and

16 d. Evaluate methods to increase public awareness of the dangers associated with  
17 substance abuse, particularly to women, expectant mothers, and newborns.

18 7. Before July 1, 2016, the task force shall report its findings and recommendations and  
19 any proposed legislation necessary to implement the recommendations to the  
20 legislative management.