

Sixty-seventh
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1465

Introduced by

Representatives Westlind, Tveit, Weisz

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 26.1-36-12.7 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to freedom of choice for health care services.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** Section 26.1-36-12.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
5 enacted as follows:

6 **26.1-36-12.7. Freedom of choice for health care services.**

7 1. As used in this section:

8 a. "Health benefit plan" has the same meaning as provided under section
9 26.1-36.3-01.

10 b. "Health care provider" includes an individual licensed under chapter 43-05,
11 43-06, 43-12.1 as a registered nurse or as an advanced practice registered
12 nurse, 43-13, 43-15, 43-17, 43-26.1, 43-28, 43-32, 43-37, 43-40, 43-41, 43-42,
13 43-44, 43-45, 43-47, 43-58, or 43-60.

14 ~~b. "Policy" means a health insurance policy, contract, or evidence of coverage on a~~
15 ~~group, individual, blanket, franchise, or association basis~~

16 c. "Integrated delivery network" means a system of health care providers and
17 facilities which offers both health care services and health benefit plans.

18 2. A health insurer, including the North Dakota Medicaid program as part of an integrated
19 delivery network, may not obstruct issue or deliver a health benefit plan within an
20 integrated delivery network that obstructs patient choice by excluding a health care
21 provider licensed under the laws of this state from participating on in the health
22 insurer's panel of providers network if the provider is located within the
23 geographic service coverage area of the health benefit plan and is willing and fully

- 1 qualified to meet the terms and conditions of participation, as established by the health
- 2 insurer.