

Introduced by

State and Local Government Committee

(At the request of the Department of Health and Human Services)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 50-06-21 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and
3 treatment services.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 50-06-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **50-06-21. Gambling disorder prevention, awareness, crisis intervention,**
8 **rehabilitation, and treatment services.**

9 The department ~~shall~~may ~~administer, develop, and implement a gambling disorder~~
10 ~~prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and treatment services program or~~
11 may contract with qualified treatment service providers for the development and implementation
12 of a program for gambling prevention, awareness, crisis intervention, rehabilitation, financial
13 counseling, and mental health treatment services. The program may provide outpatient
14 services, partial care services, aftercare services, intervention services, financial counseling
15 services, consultation services, or other forms of preventive, rehabilitative, or treatment services
16 for individuals with a gambling disorder. An individual who provides treatment services must be
17 a licensed professional operating within the individual's scope of practice. An individual who
18 provides financial counseling services must be a certified consumer credit counselor with an
19 accredited financial counseling agency. The department may establish a sliding payment scale
20 for services under the program. The department may establish a centrally located repository of
21 educational materials on identifying and treating gambling disorders. Any service fee collected
22 by qualified treatment service providers for services provided under the contract must be
23 applied toward the program's gambling disorder services. The term "qualified treatment service
24 provider" means an entity based in North Dakota which is experienced in and capable of

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1 delivering gambling disorder education, prevention, awareness, crisis intervention,
2 rehabilitation, financial counseling, and mental health treatment services as defined by the
3 department of health and human services. The term "gambling disorder" means a chronic,
4 progressive disease that is characterized by a preoccupation with gambling, loss of control over
5 gambling behaviors, and oftentimes disregard for the negative consequences as a result of
6 gambling. Gambling disorder includes gambling behavior that compromises, disrupts, or
7 damages personal, family, or vocational pursuits.