

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2077

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

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