
HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 18, 2025
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

- 10:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the [minutes of the August 18, 2025, meeting](#)
Comments by the Chairman
- UNMET DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS STUDY**
- 10:05 a.m. [Presentation](#) by the Legislative Council staff of a background memorandum regarding the study of the unmet dental and oral health care needs of low-income children, Native American children, and individuals with disabilities
- 10:15 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Krista Fremming, Assistant Director, Medical Services, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding an overview of Medicaid and dental providers
- 10:30 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Cheri Kiefer, Oral Health Program Director, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding the North Dakota Oral Health Program
- 10:45 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Mari Volk, Dean of Current and Emerging Technologies, Bismarck State College, regarding the expansion of Bismarck State College dental programs
- 11:00 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Dr. Tegwyn Brickhouse, Pediatric Dentist, Mystic Smiles Dental Clinic, regarding providing dental services
- 11:15 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Brent Kleinjan, Executive Director, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Bismarck, regarding providing dental services
- 11:30 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Anthony Bauer, Deputy Director, Indian Affairs Commission, regarding dental access for Native Americans
- 11:45 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. William R. Sherwin, Executive Director, North Dakota Dental Association, regarding the perspectives of the members of the association
- 12:00 noon Recess
- 12:45 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Kim Kuhlmann, External Affairs Manager, Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas, and Facilitator, North Dakota Oral Health Coalition, regarding the North Dakota Oral Health Coalition
- 1:00 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Dr. Ben Huber, Dental Director, Family HealthCare, regarding provider perspectives at a federally qualified health center
- 1:15 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. David Schaibley, Executive Director, North Dakota State Board of Dental Examiners, regarding the purview of the board and information from providers
- 1:30 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Chyrstal Bartuska, Life and Health/Medicare Division Director, Insurance and Securities Department, regarding an overview of dental insurance plans
- 1:45 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Tammy King, Executive Director, Bridging the Dental Gap, regarding providing dental services for Medicaid recipients and low-income individuals

- 2:00 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Nadine Boe, Chief Executive Officer, Northland Health Centers, regarding the perspective and workforce challenges of rural federally qualified health centers
- 2:15 p.m. Comments by interested persons
- 2:30 p.m. Committee discussion and directives
- 2:45 p.m. Break

ELECTRONIC PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS STUDY

- 3:00 p.m. [Presentation](#) by the Legislative Council staff of a background memorandum regarding the study of the ability for health care systems and providers to submit prior authorization reviews by secure electronic means
- 3:10 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Matthew Farrell, Access Management Senior Director, Essentia Health, regarding electronic prior authorizations for providers and patients
- 3:20 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Megan Hruby, Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota, regarding electronic prior authorization reviews as a health insurer
- 3:30 p.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative of the Information Technology Department regarding technological capabilities to send information securely
- 3:40 p.m. Comments by interested persons
- 3:45 p.m. Committee discussion and directives
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.

Committee Members

Representatives: Carrie McLeod (Chairman), Karen Grindberg, Karen Karls, Lisa Meier, Jon O. Nelson, Mitch Ostlie, Karen M. Rohr, Mary Schneider

Senators: Judy Lee, Tim Mathern, Kristin Roers, Desiree van Oosting

Staff Contact: Katie Carpenter, Counsel