

February 10, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

HOUSE BILL NO. 1464

Introduced by

Representatives Dobervich, K. Anderson, Brown, Finley-DeVille, Hager, Hanson, Rohr,
Steiner

Senators Hogan, Mathern

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-12 ~~and a new section to~~
2 ~~chapter 50-24.1~~ of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to postpartum doula certification
3 ~~and medical assistance benefits for postpartum doula services; and to provide for a legislative~~
4 ~~management report.~~

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 23-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **Postpartum doula certification.**

9 1. As used in this section:

- 10 a. "Certified doula" means an individual who has received a certification to perform
11 doula services from the doulas of North America or an organization designated
12 by the department.
- 13 b. "Department" means the department of health and human services.
- 14 c. "Doula services" means education and support services for a parent and child,
15 including continuous emotional and physical support during the postpartum
16 period, including up to six months after the birth of the child.
- 17 2. The department may:
- 18 a. Designate additional doula certification organizations;
- 19 b. Remove the designation of a doula certification organization; and
- 20 c. Adopt rules to implement and administer this section.

1 3. The department shall establish criteria for the designation of doula certification
2 organizations and maintain a list of designated organizations on the department's
3 website for purposes of facilitating the availability of certified doulas to provide doula
4 services under section 2 of this Act.

5 4. The department may not impose a licensing or certification fee in addition to any fees
6 imposed by a doula certification organization meeting the criteria established by the
7 department.

8 ~~SECTION 2. A new section to chapter 50-24.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~
9 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

10 ~~Medical assistance benefits – Postpartum doula services.~~

11 ~~1. Medical assistance coverage, including Medicaid expansion coverage, must include~~
12 ~~coverage of postpartum doula services, as defined in section 1 of this Act.~~

13 ~~2. The department shall provide notice to an enrollee regarding the coverage required by~~
14 ~~this section.~~

15 **SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REPORT - POSTPARTUM DOULA**

16 **CERTIFICATION.** During the 2025-26 interim, the department of health and human services
17 shall provide a report to the legislative management regarding postpartum doula certification,
18 including the status of implementing and administering the responsibilities relating to
19 postpartum doula certification under section 1 of this Act and the impact of certified doula
20 services.