

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1391

Introduced by

Representatives Rohr, K. Anderson, Hendrix, M. Ruby, Toman, Holle, Frelich

Senators Boehm, Clemens, Schaible, Van Oosting, Weston

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 14-02.4 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to health status exceptions for health care facilities; and to amend and
3 reenact sections 14-02.4-01, 14-02.4-02, 14-02.4-03, 14-02.4-04, 14-02.4-05, 14-02.4-06,
4 14-02.4-08, and 14-02.4-09, subsection 1 of section 14-02.4-14, subsection 1 of section
5 14-02.4-15, and sections 14-02.4-16 and 14-02.4-17 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating
6 to creating a new status related to human rights and antidiscrimination policies.

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

8 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10 **14-02.4-01. State policy against discrimination.**

11 It is the policy of this state to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex,
12 national origin, age, the presence of any mental or physical disability, health status, status with
13 regard to marriage or public assistance, or participation in lawful activity off the employer's
14 premises during nonworking hours which is not in direct conflict with the essential
15 business-related interests of the employer; to prevent and eliminate discrimination in
16 employment relations, public accommodations, housing, state and local government services,
17 and credit transactions; and to deter those who aid, abet, or induce discrimination or coerce
18 others to discriminate.

19 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
20 amended and reenacted as follows:

21 **14-02.4-02. Definitions.**

22 In this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

- 1 1. "Age" insofar as it refers to any prohibited unfair employment or other practice means
2 at least forty years of age.
- 3 2. "Aggrieved person" includes any person who claims to have been injured by a
4 discriminatory practice.
- 5 3. "Court" means the district court in the judicial district in which the alleged
6 discriminatory practice occurred.
- 7 4. "Department" means the division of human rights within the department of labor and
8 human rights.
- 9 5. "Disability" means a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or
10 more major life activities, a record of this impairment, or being regarded as having this
11 impairment.
- 12 6. "Discriminatory practice" means an act or attempted act which because of race, color,
13 religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, status with regard to
14 marriage or public assistance, or participation in lawful activity off the employer's
15 premises during nonworking hours which is not in direct conflict with the essential
16 business-related interests of the employer results in the unequal treatment or
17 separation or segregation of any persons, or denies, prevents, limits, or otherwise
18 adversely affects, or if accomplished would deny, prevent, limit, or otherwise adversely
19 affect, the benefit of enjoyment by any person of employment, labor union
20 membership, public accommodations, public services, or credit transactions. The term
21 "discriminate" includes segregate or separate and for purposes of discrimination
22 based on sex, it includes sexual harassment. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome
23 sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct or
24 other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:
25 a. Submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either
26 explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining employment, public accommodations or public
27 services, or education;
- 28 b. Submission to or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is
29 used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's employment, public
30 accommodations or public services, education, or housing; or

1 c. That conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially
2 interfering with an individual's employment, public accommodations, public
3 services, or educational environment; and in the case of employment, the
4 employer is responsible for its acts and those of its supervisory employees if it
5 knows or should know of the existence of the harassment and fails to take timely
6 and appropriate action.

7 7. "Employee" means a person who performs services for an employer, who employs
8 one or more individuals, for compensation, whether in the form of wages, salaries,
9 commission, or otherwise. "Employee" does not include a person elected to public
10 office in the state or political subdivision by the qualified voters thereof, or a person
11 chosen by the officer to be on the officer's political staff, or an appointee on the
12 policymaking level or an immediate adviser with respect to the exercise of the
13 constitutional or legal powers of the office. Provided, "employee" does include a
14 person subject to the civil service or merit system or civil service laws of the state
15 government, governmental agency, or a political subdivision.

16 8. "Employer" means a person within the state who employs one or more employees for
17 more than one quarter of the year and a person wherever situated who employs one
18 or more employees whose services are to be partially or wholly performed in the state.

19 9. "Employment agency" means a person regularly undertaking, with or without
20 compensation, to procure employees for an employer or to procure for employees
21 opportunity to work for an employer and includes any agent of the person.

22 10. "Health status" means an individual's medical records or preferences relating to the
23 right to refuse a medical procedure, treatment, injection, device, vaccine, or
24 prophylactic.

25 11. "Labor organization" means a person, employee representation committee, plan in
26 which employees participate, or other organization which exists solely or in part for the
27 purpose of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages,
28 rates of pay, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment.

29 ~~11.~~12. "National origin" means the place of birth of an individual or any of the individual's
30 lineal ancestors.

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- 1 ~~42.13.~~ "Otherwise qualified person" means a person who is capable of performing the
2 essential functions of the particular employment in question.
- 3 ~~43.14.~~ "Person" means an individual, partnership, association, corporation, limited liability
4 company, unincorporated organization, mutual company, joint stock company, trust,
5 agent, legal representative, trustee, trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, labor organization,
6 public body, public corporation, and the state and a political subdivision and agency
7 thereof.
- 8 ~~44.15.~~ "Public accommodation" means every place, establishment, or facility of whatever
9 kind, nature, or class that caters or offers services, facilities, or goods to the general
10 public for a fee, charge, or gratuity. "Public accommodation" does not include a bona
11 fide private club or other place, establishment, or facility which is by its nature distinctly
12 private; provided, however, the distinctly private place, establishment, or facility is a
13 "public accommodation" during the period it caters or offers services, facilities, or
14 goods to the general public for a fee, charge, or gratuity.
- 15 ~~45.16.~~ "Public service" means a public facility, department, agency, board, or commission
16 owned, operated, or managed by or on behalf of this state, a political subdivision
17 thereof, or a public corporation.
- 18 ~~46.17.~~ "Readily achievable" means easily accomplishable and able to be carried out without
19 much difficulty or expense by a person engaged in the provision of public
20 accommodations.
- 21 ~~47.18.~~ "Reasonable accommodations" means accommodations by an employer that do not:
22 a. Unduly disrupt or interfere with the employer's normal operations;
23 b. Threaten the health or safety of the individual with a disability or others;
24 c. Contradict a business necessity of the employer; or
25 d. Impose undue hardship on the employer, based on the size of the employer's
26 business, the type of business, the financial resources of the employer, and the
27 estimated cost and extent of the accommodation.
- 28 ~~48.19.~~ "Sex" includes pregnancy, childbirth, and disabilities related to pregnancy or childbirth.
- 29 ~~49.20.~~ "Status with regard to public assistance" means the condition of being a recipient of
30 federal, state, or local assistance, including medical assistance, or of being a tenant

1 receiving federal, state, or local subsidies, including rental assistance or rent
2 supplements.

3 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **14-02.4-03. Employer's discriminatory practices.**

- 6 1. It is a discriminatory practice for an employer to fail or refuse to hire an individual; to
7 discharge an employee; or to accord adverse or unequal treatment to an individual or
8 employee with respect to application, hiring, training, apprenticeship, tenure,
9 promotion, upgrading, compensation, layoff, or a term, privilege, or condition of
10 employment, because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or
11 mental disability, health status, status with respect to marriage or public assistance, or
12 participation in lawful activity off the employer's premises during nonworking hours
13 which is not in direct conflict with the essential business-related interests of the
14 employer.
- 15 2. It is a discriminatory practice for an employer to fail or refuse to make reasonable
16 accommodations for an otherwise qualified individual with a physical or mental
17 disability, because that individual is pregnant, ~~or~~ because of that individual's religion,
18 or because of that individual's health status. An employer is not required to provide an
19 accommodation that would disrupt or interfere with the employer's normal business
20 operations; threaten an individual's health or safety; contradict a business necessity of
21 the employer; or impose an undue hardship on the employer, taking into consideration
22 the size of the employer's business, the type of business, the financial resources of
23 the employer, and the estimated cost and extent of the accommodation. For purposes
24 of this subsection, "pregnant" includes pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical
25 conditions.
- 26 3. This chapter does not prohibit compulsory retirement of any employee who has
27 attained sixty-five years of age, but not seventy years of age, and who, for the
28 two-year period immediately before retirement, is employed in a bona fide executive or
29 high policymaking position, if the employee is entitled to an immediate nonforfeiture
30 annual retirement benefit from a pension, profit-sharing, savings, or deferred

1 compensation plan, or any combination of those plans, of the employer of the
2 employee, which equal, in the aggregate, at least forty-four thousand dollars.

3 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **14-02.4-04. Employment agency's discriminatory practices.**

6 It is a discriminatory practice for an employment agency to accord adverse or unequal
7 treatment to a person in connection with an application for employment, referral, or request for
8 assistance in procurement of employees because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin,
9 age, physical or mental disability, health status, or status with respect to marriage or public
10 assistance, or to accept a listing of employment on that basis.

11 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **14-02.4-05. Labor organization's discriminatory practices.**

14 It is a discriminatory practice for a labor organization to deny full and equal membership
15 rights to an applicant for membership or to a member; to expel, suspend, or otherwise discipline
16 a member; or to accord adverse, unlawful, or unequal treatment to a person with respect to the
17 person's hiring, apprenticeship, training, tenure, compensation, upgrading, layoff, or a term or
18 condition of employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or
19 mental disability, health status, or status with respect to marriage or public assistance.

20 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **14-02.4-06. Certain employment advertising deemed discriminatory.**

23 It is a discriminatory practice for an employer, employment agency, or labor organization, or
24 the employees, agents, or members thereof directly or indirectly to advertise or in any other
25 manner indicate or publicize that individuals of a particular race, color, religion, sex, national
26 origin, age, physical or mental disability, health status, or status with respect to marriage or
27 public assistance, or who participate in lawful activity off the employer's premises during
28 nonworking hours which activity is not in direct conflict with the essential business-related
29 interests of the employer, are unwelcome, objectionable, not acceptable, or not solicited.

30 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
31 amended and reenacted as follows:

1 **14-02.4-08. Qualification based on religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental**
2 **disability, or marital status.**

3 Notwithstanding sections 14-02.4-03 through 14-02.4-06, it is not a discriminatory practice
4 for an employer to fail or refuse to hire and employ an individual for a position, to discharge an
5 individual from a position, or for an employment agency to fail or refuse to refer an individual for
6 employment in a position, or for a labor organization to fail or refuse to refer an individual for
7 employment, on the basis of religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, health
8 status, or marital status in those circumstances where religion, sex, national origin, physical or
9 mental disability, health status, or marital status is a bona fide occupational qualification
10 reasonably necessary to the normal operation of that particular business or enterprise; nor is it
11 a discriminatory practice for an employer to fail or refuse to hire and employ an individual for a
12 position, or to discharge an individual from a position on the basis of that individual's
13 participation in a lawful activity that is off the employer's premises and that takes place during
14 nonworking hours and which is not in direct conflict with the essential business-related interests
15 of the employer, if that participation is contrary to a bona fide occupational qualification that
16 reasonably and rationally relates to employment activities and the responsibilities of a particular
17 employee or group of employees, rather than to all employees of that employer.

18 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is
19 amended and reenacted as follows:

20 **14-02.4-09. Seniority, merit, or other measuring systems and ability tests not**
21 **discriminatory.**

22 Notwithstanding sections 14-02.4-03 through 14-02.4-06, it is not a discriminatory practice
23 for an employer to apply different standards of compensation, or different terms, conditions, or
24 privileges of employment pursuant to a bona fide seniority or merit system, or a system which
25 measures earnings by quantity or quality of production or to employees who work in different
26 locations provided that the differences are not the result of an intention to discriminate because
27 of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, health status,
28 status with respect to marriage or public assistance, or participation in lawful activity off the
29 employer's premises during nonworking hours; or for an employer to give and to act upon the
30 results of any professionally developed ability test; provided, that the test, its administration, or
31 action upon the results is not designed, intended, or used to discriminate because of race, color,

1 religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, health status, status with respect
2 to marriage or public assistance, or participation in a lawful activity off the employer's premises
3 during nonworking hours.

4 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 14-02.4-14 of the North Dakota
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 1. It is a discriminatory practice for a person engaged in the provision of public
7 accommodations to fail to provide to a person access to the use of any benefit from
8 the services and facilities of the public accommodations; or to give adverse, unlawful,
9 or unequal treatment to a person with respect to the availability to the services and
10 facilities, the price or other consideration therefor, the scope and equality thereof, or
11 the terms and conditions under which the same are made available because of the
12 person's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability,
13 health status, or status with respect to marriage or public assistance.

14 **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 14-02.4-15 of the North Dakota
15 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

16 1. It is a discriminatory practice for a person engaged in the provision of public services
17 to fail to provide to an individual access to the use of and benefit thereof, or to give
18 adverse or unequal treatment to an individual in connection therewith because of the
19 individual's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability,
20 health status, or status with respect to marriage or public assistance.

21 **SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is
22 amended and reenacted as follows:

23 **14-02.4-16. Advertising public accommodations or services - Discriminatory**
24 **practices - Exceptions.**

25 It is a discriminatory practice for a person to advertise or in any other manner indicate or
26 publicize that the patronage of persons of a particular race, color, religion, sex, national origin,
27 age, physical or mental disability, health status, or status with respect to marriage or public
28 assistance is unwelcome, objectionable, not acceptable, or not solicited. This section does not
29 prohibit a notice or advertisement banning minors from places where alcoholic beverages are
30 being served.

1 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **14-02.4-17. Credit transactions - Discriminatory practices.**

4 It is a discriminatory practice, except as permitted or required by the Equal Credit
5 Opportunity Act [15 U.S.C. 1691], for a person, whether acting as an individual or for another, to
6 deny credit, increase the charges or fees for or collateral required to secure credit, restrict the
7 amount or use of credit extended, impose different terms or conditions with respect to the credit
8 extended to a person, or item or service related thereto because of race, color, religion, sex,
9 national origin, age, physical or mental disability, health status, or status with respect to
10 marriage or public assistance. This section does not prohibit a party to a credit transaction from
11 considering the credit history of a person or from taking reasonable action thereon.

12 **SECTION 13.** A new section to chapter 14-02.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is
13 created and enacted as follows:

14 **Health status inquiry not discriminatory.**

- 15 1. A health care facility, licensed under chapter 23-16, does not unlawfully discriminate
16 under this chapter if the health care facility:
- 17 a. Asks an employee to volunteer specific health status information for the purpose
18 of determining whether the health care facility should implement reasonable
19 accommodation measures to protect the safety and health of employees,
20 patients, visitors, and other individuals from communicable diseases; and
- 21 b. Implements reasonable accommodation measures for employees, patients,
22 visitors, and other individuals to protect the health and safety of individuals from
23 communicable diseases.
- 24 2. A health care facility may consider an employee who declines to provide health status
25 information to be at risk for a communicable disease for purposes of determining
26 whether reasonable accommodation measures must be implemented.