

**Testimony**  
**Senate Bill No. 2078**  
**Human Services Committee**  
**Senator Judy Lee, Chairman**  
January 13, 2025

Chairman Lee, and members of the Human Services Committee, I am Pamela Sagness with the Department of Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health Division. I appear before you in support of Senate Bill No. 2078, which was introduced at the request of the Department.

The proposed change in Section of this Bill adds "or policies" in reference to the Department's general administration, supervision, and management of the North Dakota State Hospital. Section 2 of this Bill replaces "Rulemaking authority" with "Authority" in the title and adds ", policies, or bylaws" regarding the Governing Body of the North Dakota State Hospital. The Governing Body has always had by-laws and not rules. Section 3 of this Bill adds "or policies" to reflect that the North Dakota State Hospital is subject to the rules or policies adopted by the Department that apply to the North Dakota State Hospital.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to try to answer any questions the committee may have. Thank you.