

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

### SENATE BILL NO. 2176

Introduced by

Senators Axtman, Hogan

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-07 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the children's cabinet and designated working groups; to repeal  
3 section 50-06-43.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the children's cabinet; to  
4 provide for a legislative management report; and to provide an appropriation.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **Children's cabinet - Membership - Duties - Working groups - Report.**

- 9 1. The children's cabinet is created to assess, guide, and coordinate the care for children  
10 and families across the state's branches of government and the tribal nations.
- 11 2. The children's cabinet is composed of:
- 12 a. The governor, or the governor's designee;
- 13 b. The chief justice of the supreme court, or the chief justice's designee;
- 14 c. ~~A member~~ **Two members** of the house of representatives ~~from an even-numbered~~  
15 ~~legislative district and a member of the house of representatives from an~~  
16 ~~odd-numbered legislative district,~~ appointed by the majority leader of the house of  
17 representatives to serve two-year terms;
- 18 d. ~~A member~~ **Two members** of the senate ~~from an even-numbered legislative district~~  
19 ~~and a member of the senate from an odd-numbered legislative district,~~ appointed  
20 by the majority leader of the senate to serve two-year terms;

- 1           e. The superintendent of public instruction, or the superintendent's designee;  
2           f. The director of the committee on protection and advocacy, or the director's  
3           designee;  
4           g. The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or the  
5           commissioner's designee;  
6           h. A representative of the tribal nations in the state, who is appointed by the  
7           governor; and  
8           i. Four individuals representing parents, private service providers, or other  
9           community interests, who are appointed by the governor to serve a term of two  
10          years, at the pleasure of the governor, ~~and who are entitled to reimbursement~~  
11          ~~from the governor's office for travel and lodging at the same rate as provided for~~  
12          ~~state officers and employees.~~  
13          3. The governor, in collaboration with the chairman of the legislative management, shall  
14          appoint as the presiding officer of the children's cabinet a member of the governor's  
15          cabinet or a legislator serving on the children's cabinet. The children's cabinet shall  
16          select one of its members to serve as the vice-presiding officer.  
17          4. The children's cabinet shall meet at least quarterly. Additional meetings may be held at  
18          the discretion of the presiding officer.  
19          5. The children's cabinet shall:  
20           a. Coordinate broad-based leadership across programs, agencies, branches of  
21           government, and tribal nations to meet the needs of children and families;  
22           b. Develop strategies to address gaps or needs regarding early care and education,  
23           medical and behavioral health, community, child welfare, and juvenile justice;  
24           c. Develop strategies to provide for the full continuum of care in the delivery of  
25           services, including promotion, prevention, early identification and intervention,  
26           service delivery, and recovery;  
27           d. Seek to engage cooperation across public and private service providers;  
28           e. Provide a comprehensive vision for how and where children are best served,  
29           attending to children and families in a respectful and relevant manner;  
30           f. Seek strategies to provide services to children without consideration of prior  
31           engagement with juvenile services;

- 1           g. Provide for the active participation of consumers and providers statewide on  
2           advisory committees;
- 3           h. Receive information and recommendations from the department of health and  
4           human services, department of corrections and rehabilitation, and other state  
5           agencies;
- 6           i. Establish and oversee designated working groups to develop policies impacting  
7           children and families; and
- 8           j. Provide an annual report to the legislative management and governor regarding  
9           the activities and findings of:
- 10           (1) The children's cabinet; and
- 11           (2) Other designated working groups on children and family issues.
- 12       6. The office of the governor shall provide staffing and administrative services for the  
13       children's cabinet and coordinate with other designated working groups on children  
14       and family issues.
- 15       7. a. The presiding officer of the children's cabinet may designate working groups and  
16       appoint or remove liaisons to serve on the working groups.
- 17       b. A member of the children's cabinet or working group who is not a state employee  
18       is entitled to reimbursement for mileage and expenses as provided by law for  
19       state officers and employees, to be paid by the office of the governor.
- 20       c. A state employee who is a member of the children's cabinet or working group is  
21       entitled to receive that employee's regular salary and is entitled to reimbursement  
22       for mileage and expenses to be paid by the employing agency.
- 23       d. A member of the children's cabinet or working group who is a member of the  
24       legislative assembly is entitled to receive per diem compensation at the rate  
25       provided under section 54-35-10 for each day performing official duties of the  
26       children's cabinet or working group. The legislative council shall pay the per diem  
27       compensation and reimbursement for travel and such expenses as provided by  
28       law for any member of the children's cabinet or working group who is a member  
29       of the legislative assembly.

30       **SECTION 2. REPEAL.** Section 50-06-43.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

1        **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR - CHILDREN'S CABINET.**

2        There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise  
3        appropriated, the sum of \$220,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the office of  
4        the governor, for the purpose of administering the children's cabinet and coordinating  
5        designated working groups, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.