

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

3043

2005 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

HCR 3043

2005 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3043

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date Feb. 14, 2005

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
#1	x		-320
Committee Clerk Signature			

Minutes:

Chairman Price opened hearing on HCR 3043. 11 members present, 1 absent.

Mary Magnusson, Coalition for Homeless People, INC., Continuum of Care Project

Coordinator.

See. Attached Testimony.

Rep. Potter: On page 2 of your testimony, you indicate there is a national effort currently underway.

M. Magnusson: Yes, the Bush Admin., hope to create permanent housing to end homelessness.

Bismarck has signed on to the 10 year plan.

Rep. Potter: Where does your funding come from?

M, Magnusson: Continuum Care funding, federal assistance, We are exploring other areas on how we can partner with others..

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3043
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Bruce Murry, Att. ND Protection and Advocacy Project (P&A)

See Attached Testimony:

Close hearing on HCR 3043.

Chairman Price opened discussion on HCR 3043.

Rep. Potter: I feel this is a relevant situation and move a Do Pass and placed on the Consent Calendar.

Rep. Kaldor: Second.

Vote: 11-0-1 Carrier: Rep. Potter

Date: 2/14/05

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2005 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3043

House Human Services Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass - Place on Consent Calendar

Motion Made By Rep Patten Seconded By Rep Kaldor

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman C.S. Price			Rep.L. Kaldor		
V Chrm.G. Kreidt			Rep.L. Potter		
Rep. V. Pietsch			Rep.S. Sandvig		
Rep.J.O. Nelson					
Rep.W.R. Devlin					
Rep.T. Porter					
Rep.G. Uglem					
Rep C. Damschen					
Rep.R. Weisz					

Total (11) YRS No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep Patten

on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 14, 2005 6:02 p.m.

Module No: HR-29-2874
Carrier: Potter
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3043: Human Services Committee (Rep. Price, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3043 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.

2005 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

HCR 3043

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3043

Senate Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 21, 2005

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		53.6 - end
		X	0.0 - 10.4
		X	20.9 - 32.5
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Jant James</i>			

Minutes:

Senator Judy Lee, Chairman of the Senate Human Services Committee opened the hearing on HCR 3043 directing the Legislative Council to study the need for supportive housing and services, including emergency shelter, transition housing, and permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families with children.

All members of the committee were present.

Representative Margaret Sitte of District 35, cosponsor of the resolution introduced it. See written testimony (Attachment #1).

Mary Magnusson representing the North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People, Inc. testified in support of HCR 3043. See written testimony (Attachment # 2).

Tape #1, Side B 0.0 - 10.4

Testimony of Mary Magnusson continues.

Discussion was held among the committee members regarding their personal knowledge and experiences of children from homeless families. They also discussed that there are some people who do not or will not accept help.

Mary Magnusson confirmed that there are people who need a lot of outreach in order for them to accept and trust in order to put their lives back together again. Many more could be helped if there were more services for outreach and more and varied housing available for these homeless people.

Senator Lee asked for a listing of the coalition membership.

Mary Magnusson responded she would do this and that the diversity of this coalition helps to secure grant funding for housing projects. The North Dakota Commission of Indian Affairs is a member of the coalition.

Senator Lee asked for testimony in opposition to HCR 3043 and hearing non closed the hearing on HCR 3043.

Tape #1, Side B, 20.9 - 32.5

Senator Judy Lee opened the discussion on HCR 3043.

Senator Dick Dever asked if the state has any programs for homeless people.

Senator Lee responded that the homeless programs are all private although there are federal programs that provide tax credits for housing projects where a percentage of a complex is set aside for people under a certain income level.

Discussion was held as to some of the problems of housing complexes that are willing to rent to refugee families.

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Senate Human Services Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3043

Hearing Date 3-21-05

Senator Lee asked the committee if they would be interested in a short review of what kind of programs are available for homeless housing projects. Several suggestions were made of speakers to make this presentation. Contacts will be made and arrangements planned.

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3043

Senate Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 22, 2005

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		x	2390-2540
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Cathy Menard</i>			

Minutes:

Chairman Lee reopened discussion on HCR 3043. All members were present.

Senator Warner moved DO PASS on HCR 2043, seconded by Senator Dever

VOTE: 5 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent Carrier Senator Dever

Date: 3-22-05
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3043

Senate Human Services Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Sen Warner Seconded By Sen Dever

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Sen. Judy Lee - Chairman	✓		Sen. John Warner	✓	
Sen. Dick Dever - Vice Chairman	✓				
Sen. Richard Brown	✓				
Sen. Stanley Lyson	✓				

Total (Yes) 5 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen Dever

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 22, 2005 11:53 a.m.

Module No: SR-52-5718
Carrier: Dever
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3043: Human Services Committee (Sen. J. Lee, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3043 was placed on the
Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2005 TESTIMONY

HCR 3043

2/14/05

#1

HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

February 14, 2005

North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People, Inc.
Mary Magnusson, Continuum of Care Project Coordinator

HCR 3043

The North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People, Inc. supports HCR 3043.

Improving quality of life for all North Dakotans is fundamental to building the future of our state. Quality of life relates to many things including the availability of affordable housing. Quality of life for hundreds of homeless individuals and families with children in North Dakota is threatened by a lack of affordable and supportive housing and services.

A Statewide Housing Needs Assessment, prepared by North Dakota State University's Data Center, and issued November 2004, found that "North Dakota lacks sufficient affordable housing, especially for those in low and extremely low-income brackets." The report recommends that "special attention should be given to housing for special needs populations including...the homeless."

In the Housing Needs Assessment, a Survey of Key Leaders representing cities, counties, reservations, public housing authorities, banks, realtors, apartment associations, builders, and statewide housing organizations, finds that "three of four key leaders expressed the need for the state to play a role in increasing the supply of adequate and affordable housing."

Depending on the method used, it is estimated there is an unmet housing need for as many as 2000 homeless people, 40% of whom are families with children. In 2003, the North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People estimated an unmet housing need (a combination of short term emergency shelter, temporary transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing) in the state for more than 2,000 beds for homeless individuals and homeless people in families with children. The NDCHP, a non-profit organization represented by state Human Service Centers, community action agencies, domestic violence agencies, homeless service agencies and shelters, mental health and substance abuse agencies, disability service organizations, public housing authorities, housing developers, funding providers, faith-based and other community-based organizations, state and local government agencies, other non-profit service providers, and formerly homeless persons. The unmet need is based on information gathered throughout the state from interviews with housing and service providers. The numbers are based on various sources of information including waiting lists for housing and services, records of people turned away from housing and service providers, facility/agency closings, local needs surveys and

project feasibility studies, point -in-time survey data of the homeless and agency data provided by the Human Service Centers' PATH Homeless Case managers and Community Action Programs, and interviews with key stakeholders.

The NDCHP also conducts annual Point-In-Time surveys of homeless people in our state. A Point in Time Survey of the Homeless taken in 2002 counted 690 homeless people, while a similar survey taken in 2003 counted 506. These surveys indicate that on a given night there are 506 to 690 homeless people that are either living in places not meant for habitation, in short-term emergency shelters or in temporary transitional housing. The Point-In-Time Surveys help us understand the characteristics and needs of the homeless for housing and services, however, they understate the homeless population. This is because these point-in-time surveys do not factor in the "hidden homeless". The hidden homeless are individuals and families with children who are being turned away from shelters and housing, or are living in precarious housing situations, temporarily doubled up with friends and family on the day of the survey. The U.S. General Accounting Office has found that the number of hidden children and youth is 2.7 times the number of sheltered children and youth, and there are just as many hidden adults as there are sheltered adults. This method of estimating the hidden homeless gives the following results:

Estimated homeless and hidden homeless persons in North Dakota	YR 2002	YR 2003
Count of adults	554	370
Count of children and youth under 18 years of age	136	136
Subtotal	690	506
Estimate of hidden homeless adults- (same as the number counted)	554	370
Estimate of hidden children and youth under 18 years of age (136 x 2.7)	367	367
Total estimated homeless in North Dakota	1611	1243

Based on the two methods described above, the NDCHP estimates there is an unmet need of 1200 to 2000 homeless in North Dakota.

Addressing the issue of homelessness is a national effort. President Bush has established a goal of ending long-term homelessness in ten years. The key strategy to address long-term homelessness is a "housing first" strategy, which places a priority on providing persons experiencing homelessness a permanent place to live along with the necessary support services so that they can be successfully housed over the long-term. Supportive housing is effective in reducing crisis costs. A study conducted by the University of Pennsylvania of supportive housing developments in New York City calculated that persons with mental illness experiencing long-term homelessness used an average of \$40,500 per year of shelter, corrections, and health services before being provided supportive housing, and \$12,145 of such services after being in supportive housing. For North Dakota the benefit of supportive housing would be in keeping homeless people off the streets longer, increasing their quality of life, increasing the length of time they stay employed, as well as reducing the time they spend in hospital emergency rooms, county jails and detox units, which reduces the burden on county and state budgets.

The NDCHP asks that HCR 3043 be passed in order to further study the need for supportive housing for the homeless in North Dakota.

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TESTIMONY - PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY PROJECT
HCR 3043 - HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
HONORABLE CLARA SUE PRICE, CHAIRMAN
February 14, 2005 3:30 p.m.

Chairman Price, and members of the House Judiciary Committee, I am Bruce Murry, a staff attorney for the North Dakota Protection and Advocacy Project (P&A).

People living in homes of their own are better able to work, shop, care for loved ones, and participate in the community.

As North Dakota's population ages, people will experience more housing challenges related to disabilities. People with disabilities may need minor accessibility features like alternative fire alarms or remote control systems. Some people may need further features such as bathroom remodeling or mechanical lifts. A range of accessible housing is essential for people with disabilities to avoid institutionalization.

Public programs can require features in all of their new construction that make future modifications much less expensive. These include reinforcements in bathroom walls for adding railings, 32 inch doors instead of 28, and major appliances that open from the logical side. Split level construction should be avoided in all public housing.

People may need accessible housing because of disabilities at any stage of life -- childhood, college, career and family building, emergencies, or retirement. For these reasons, any study or initiative for better housing in North Dakota should ensure a substantial portion of that housing is accessible to people with different disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions.

HCR 3043 Study of homelessness

Chairwoman Lee and Members of the Committee, I am Representative Margaret Sitte, from District 35 in central Bismarck, sponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 3043, which asks the Legislative Council to study the needs of homeless people for housing and services.

Surveys have found that North Dakota needs approximately 2,000 beds for homeless individuals and families with children. Supportive housing would increase people's quality of life and length of employment while reducing time spent in emergency rooms, jails, and detoxification units.

Last month North Dakota received \$1.3 million in Continuum of Care grants to assist the homeless. Of the six organizations receiving these monies, four will spend the funds for permanent supportive housing projects in Fargo, Grand Forks, Minot and Williston.

This resolution requests that an interim committee study the need for supportive housing and services, including emergency shelters, transition housing, and permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families with children.

I urge you to give a favorable recommendation to HCR 3043.

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 21, 2005

North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People, Inc.
Mary Magnusson, Continuum of Care Project Coordinator

HCR 3043

The North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People, Inc. supports HCR 3043.

Improving quality of life for all North Dakotans is fundamental to building the future of our state. Quality of life relates to many things including the availability of affordable housing. Quality of life for hundreds of homeless individuals and families with children in North Dakota is threatened by a lack of affordable and supportive housing and services.

A Statewide Housing Needs Assessment, prepared by North Dakota State University's Data Center, and issued November 2004, found that "North Dakota lacks sufficient affordable housing, especially for those in low and extremely low-income brackets." The report recommends that "special attention should be given to housing for special needs populations including... the homeless."

In the Housing Needs Assessment, a Survey of Key Leaders representing cities, counties, reservations, public housing authorities, banks, realtors, apartment associations, builders, and statewide housing organizations, finds that "three of four key leaders expressed the need for the state to play a role in increasing the supply of adequate and affordable housing."

Depending on the method used, it is estimated there is an unmet housing need for as many as 2000 homeless people, 40% of whom are families with children. In 2003, the North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People estimated an unmet housing need (a combination of short term emergency shelter, temporary transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing) in the state for more than 2,000 beds for homeless individuals and homeless people in families with children. The NDCHP is a non-profit organization represented by state Human Service Centers, community action agencies, domestic violence agencies, homeless service agencies and shelters, mental health and substance abuse agencies, disability service organizations, public housing authorities, housing developers, funding providers, faith-based and other community-based organizations, state and local government agencies, other non-profit service providers, and formerly homeless persons. The unmet need is based on information gathered throughout the state from interviews with housing and service providers. The numbers are based on various sources of information including waiting lists for housing and services, records of people turned away from housing and service providers, facility/agency closings, local needs surveys and project feasibility studies, point -in-time survey data of the homeless and agency data provided

by the Human Service Centers' PATH Homeless Case managers and Community Action Programs, and interviews with key stakeholders.

The NDCHP also conducts annual statewide point-in-time surveys of the homeless. A point-in-time survey recently taken on January 26, 2005 counted 655 homeless, including 500 adults and 155 children. This point-in-time survey indicates that on any given night in North Dakota there are more than 600 homeless people that are either living in places not meant for habitation, in short-term emergency shelters or in temporary transitional housing. Point-in-time surveys help us understand the characteristics and needs of the homeless for housing and services, however, they understate the homeless population. This is because these point-in-time surveys do not factor in the "hidden homeless". The hidden homeless are individuals and families with children who are being turned away from shelters and housing, or are living in precarious housing situations, temporarily doubled up with friends and family on the day of the survey. The U.S. General Accounting Office has found that the number of hidden children and youth is 2.7 times the number of sheltered children and youth, and there are just as many hidden adults as there are sheltered adults. This method of estimating the hidden homeless gives the following results:

Estimated homeless and hidden homeless persons in North Dakota	YR 2005
Count of adults	500
Count of children and youth under 18 years of age	155
Subtotal	655
Estimate of hidden homeless adults- (same as the number counted)	500
Estimate of hidden children and youth under 18 years of age (155 x 2.7)	419
Total estimated homeless in North Dakota	1,574

Based on the two methods described above, the NDCHP estimates there is an unmet need of 1500 to 2000 beds for the homeless in North Dakota.

Addressing the issue of homelessness is a national effort. President Bush has established a goal of ending chronic homelessness in ten years. The key strategy to end long-term homelessness is a "housing first" strategy, which places a priority on providing persons experiencing homelessness a permanent place to live along with the necessary support services so that they can be successfully housed over the long-term.

North Dakota is participating in this national initiative. In 2004, Governor Hoeven appointed a North Dakota Interagency Council on Homelessness. Its job is to develop a long-term plan for ending chronic homelessness in our state. A study of the need for supportive housing would assist the work of the Council.

The financial benefit associated with supportive housing is the reduction of crisis costs. There has been a study, conducted by the University of Pennsylvania, which shows that supportive housing reduces crisis costs. The University studied supportive housing developments in New York City, and calculated that persons with mental illness experiencing long-term homelessness, used an average of \$40,500 per year of shelter, corrections, and health services before being

provided supportive housing, and only \$12,145 of such services after being in supportive housing.

For North Dakota the benefit of supportive housing would be in keeping homeless people off the streets, increasing their quality of life, increasing the length of time they stay employed, as well as reducing the time they spend in hospital emergency rooms, county jails and detox units, which reduces the burden on county and state budgets.

The NDCHP asks that HCR 3043 be passed in order to further study the need for supportive housing for the homeless in North Dakota.