

2023 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2181

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
1/18/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

10:06 AM **Madam Chair Lee called the hearing to order.** Senators Lee, Cleary, Clemens, K. Roers, Weston, Hogan are present.

Discussion Topics:

- Assistance for needy families
- Twelve months postpartum coverage
- Closing gaps for the eligible.

Senator K. Roers introduced SB 2181 verbally.

10:10 AM **Christopher Dodson, Executive Director, North Dakota Catholic Conference,** testimony in favor #13986, #14238

10:18 AM **Jessica Thomasson, Director of the Human Services Division, North Dakota Department of Human Services,** provided information verbally.

10:19 AM **Courtney Koebele, Executive Director, North Dakota Medical Association,** testified in favor. #14298

Additional written testimony:

Tim Blasl, President, North Dakota Hospital Association in favor #14099
Sierra Heitkamp, Legislative Director, North Dakota Right to Life in favor #14125

10:21 AM Madam Chair Lee closed the hearing.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
1/18/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

2:56 PM **Madam Chair Lee** called the hearing to order. Senators Lee, Cleary, Clemens, K. Roers, Weston, Hogan are present.

Discussion Topics:

- Pregnancy duration

2:57 PM **Krista Fremming, Interim Director of Medical Services, ND Department of Health and Human Services** clarification on the duration of pregnancy

3:00 PM Madam Chair Lee closed the hearing.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
1/24/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

3:15 PM **Madam Chair Lee** called the committee work order. Senators Lee, Cleary, Clemens, K. Roers, Weston, Hogan are present.

Discussion topics:

- Medical coverage
- Eligibility clarification

Committee discussed.

3:27 PM **Madam Chair Lee** closed the meeting.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
1/25/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

3:46 PM. **Madam Chair Lee** called the committee meeting to order. **Senators Lee, Cleary, Clemens, K. Roers, Weston, Hogan** were present.

Discussion Topics

- Committee action
- Legal immigrants

Senator K. Roers submitted amendment from Christopher Dodson #16879

Senator K. Roers moved to adopt **Amendment**. (23.0465.01001)

Senator Hogan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Senators	Vote
Senator Judy Lee	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator David A. Clemens	Y
Senator Kathy Hogan	Y
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Kent Weston	Y

Motion passed. 6-0-0

Senator K. Roers moved **DO PASS** as **AMENDED** and **REFER** to **APPROPRIATIONS**

Senator Hogan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Senators	Vote
Senator Judy Lee	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator David A. Clemens	Y
Senator Kathy Hogan	Y
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Kent Weston	Y

The motion passed 6-0-0.

Senator K. Roers will carry SB 2181.

3:53 PM **Madam Chair Lee** closed the meeting.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

January 25, 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2181

Page 1, line 11, remove "who are lawfully present in the United States"

Page 1, line 20, remove the overstrike over "subdivision"

Page 1, line 20, remove "subdivisions a and"

Renumber accordingly

DR
1/21
1-25-2023

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2181: Human Services Committee (Sen. Lee, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2181 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

Page 1, line 11, remove "who are lawfully present in the United States"

Page 1, line 20, remove the overstrike over "~~subdivision~~"

Page 1, line 20, remove "subdivisions a and"

Renumber accordingly

2023 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2181

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Human Resources Division Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
2/8/2023

A bill relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

8:18 AM Chairman Dever called the meeting to order.
Senators Burckhard, Davison, Dever, Mathern, and Kreun were present.

Discussion Topics:

- Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)
- Coverage for full pregnancy
- Legal immigrants
- Postpartum coverage

8:18 AM Senator Kristen Roers introduced SB 2181.

8:27 AM Christopher Dodd, verbally testified in favor.

Additional written testimony:

Carissa Kemp, Director, Government Affairs and Advocacy, American Diabetes Association, affirmative. Testimony #19288

Kayla Schmidt, Interim Executive Director, ND Women's Network, affirmative.
Testimony #19733

8:31 AM Senator Kreun moved Do Pass on SB 2181.
Senator Mathern seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Curt Kreun	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y

Motion passed 5-0-0

8: 31 AM Chairman Dever closed the meeting.

Carol Thompson for Susan Huntington, Committee Clerk

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
2/10/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

11:31 AM Chairman Bekkedahl opened the meeting.

Members present: **Senators Bekkedahl, Krebsbach, Burckhard, Davison, Dever, Dwyer, Kreun, Meyer, Roers, Schaible, Sorvaag, Vedaa, Wanzek, Rust, and Mathern.**
Members Absent: **Senator Erbele**

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

11:31 AM Senator Kreun introduced the bill verbally.

11:33 AM Senator Kreun moved DO PASS.

11:33 AM Senator Dever seconded.

11:35 Roll call vote.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Karen K. Krebsbach	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	AB
Senator Curt Kreun	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Jim P. Roers	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Shawn Vedaa	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y
Senator Rust	Y

Passed 15-0-1

Senator Roers will carry the bill.

11:35 AM Chairman Bekkedahl closed the meeting.

Peter Gualandri on behalf of Kathleen Hall, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2181, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (15 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2181 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

2023 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2181

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
3/14/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

Chairman Weisz called the meeting to order at 9:18 AM.

Chairman Robin Weisz, Vice Chairman Matthew Ruby, Reps. Karen A. Anderson, Mike Beltz, Clayton Fegley, Kathy Frelich, Dawson Holle, Dwight Kiefert, Carrie McLeod, Todd Porter, Brandon Prichard, Karen M. Rohr, Jayme Davis, and Gretchen Dobervich. All present.

Discussion Topics:

- Medicaid coverage
- TANF program
- TANF eligibility

Sen. Roers introduced SB 2181 with supportive testimony.

Christopher Dodson, Executive Director of North Dakota Catholic Conference, supportive testimony #24586.

Erik Elkins, Assistant to the Medical Department with the Department of Health and Human Services, answered questions from the committee.

Michelle Gee, Assistant Director to the Medical Department with the Department of Health and Human Services, answered questions from the committee.

Additional written testimony:

Sierra Heitkamp, Legislative Director, ND Right to Life, #24615

Mike Krumwiede, American Heart Association, #24569

Chairman Weisz adjourned the meeting at 9:32 AM.

Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
3/20/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

Chairman Weisz called the meeting to order at 3:58 PM.

Chairman Robin Weisz, Vice Chairman Matthew Ruby, Reps. Karen A. Anderson, Mike Beltz, Clayton Fegley, Kathy Frelich, Dawson Holle, Dwight Kiefert, Carrie McLeod, Todd Porter, Karen M. Rohr, Jayme Davis, and Gretchen Dobervich present. Rep. Prichard not present.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee work

Committee discussion.

Chairman Weisz adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM.

Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
3/27/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

Chairman Weisz called the meeting to order at 11:31 AM.

Chairman Robin Weisz, Vice Chairman Matthew Ruby, Reps. Karen A. Anderson, Mike Beltz, Clayton Fegley, Kathy Frelich, Dawson Holle, Dwight Kiefert, Carrie McLeod, Todd Porter, Brandon Prichard, Karen M. Rohr, Jayme Davis, and Gretchen Dobervich. Rep. Clayton Fegley not present.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

Chairman Weisz called for a discussion on SB 2181.

Vice Chairman Ruby moved to adopt amendment 23.0465.02001

Seconded by Rep. Rohr.

Roll Call Vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Robin Weisz	Y
Representative Matthew Ruby	Y
Representative Karen A. Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Beltz	Y
Representative Jayme Davis	N
Representative Gretchen Dobervich	Y
Representative Clayton Fegley	AB
Representative Kathy Frelich	N
Representative Dawson Holle	N
Representative Dwight Kiefert	N
Representative Carrie McLeod	N
Representative Todd Porter	Y
Representative Brandon Prichard	N
Representative Karen M. Rohr	Y

Motion carries 7-6-1.

Vice Chairman Ruby moved a do pass as amended and rereferral to Appropriations Committee on SB 2181.

Seconded by Rep. Beltz.

Roll Call Vote:

Representatives	Vote
Representative Robin Weisz	Y
Representative Matthew Ruby	Y
Representative Karen A. Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Beltz	Y
Representative Jayme Davis	Y
Representative Gretchen Dobervich	Y
Representative Clayton Fegley	AB
Representative Kathy Frelich	Y
Representative Dawson Holle	Y
Representative Dwight Kiefert	Y
Representative Carrie McLeod	Y
Representative Todd Porter	Y
Representative Brandon Prichard	Y
Representative Karen M. Rohr	Y

Motion carries 13-0-1.

Carried by Rep. Frelich.

Chairman Weisz adjourned the meeting at 11:42 AM.

Phillip Jacobs, Committee Clerk

March 27, 2023

A
3-27-23

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2181

Page 3, line 5, remove the overstrike over "~~Except in cases of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest, not increase~~"

Page 3, line 5, remove "Increase"

Renumber accordingly

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2181, as engrossed: Human Services Committee (Rep. Weisz, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2181 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 3, line 5, remove the overstrike over "~~Except in cases of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest, not increase~~"

Page 3, line 5, remove "Increase"

Renumber accordingly

2023 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2181

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
4/3/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

8:39 AM Chairman Vigesaa Called the meeting to order and roll call was taken-

All Members Present; Chairman Vigesaa, Representative Kempenich, Representative B. Anderson, Representative Bellew, Representative Brandenburg, Representative Hanson, Representative Kreidt, Representative Martinson, Representative Mitskog, Representative Meier, Representative Mock, Representative Monson, Representative Nathe, Representative J. Nelson, Representative O'Brien, Representative Pyle, Representative Richter, Representative Sanford, Representative Schatz, Representative Schobinger, Representative Strinden, Representative G. Stemen and Representative Swiontek.

Discussion Topics:

- Medicaid and TANIF
- Pregnancy Coverage
- State Resident and Legal Immigrant Inclusivity
- Post-Partum Coverage

Representative Weisz- Introduces the bill and its purpose

Committee Discussion

9:04 AM Chairman Vigesaa Closed the meeting for SB 2181

Risa Berube, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
4/13/2023

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

4:00 PM Chairman Vigesaa Called the meeting to order and roll call was taken-

Members present; Chairman Vigesaa, Representative Kempenich, Representative B. Anderson, Representative Brandenburg, Representative Hanson, Representative Kreidt, Representative Mitskog, Representative Meier, Representative Mock, Representative Monson, Representative Nathe, Representative J. Nelson, Representative O'Brien, Representative Pyle, Representative Richter, Representative Schatz, Representative Schobinger, Representative Strinden, Representative G. Stemen and Representative Swiontek.

Members not Present- Representative Martinson, Representative Sanford, and Representative Bellew,

Discussion Topics:

- Amendment

Chairman Vigesaa Opens discussion for SB 2181

Representative J. Nelson – Explain the amendment 23.0465.02002 (Testimony #27553)

Representative J. Nelson Move to Adopt Amendment 23.0465.02002

Representative G. Stemen Seconds the Motion

Committee Discussion- Roll call vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Larry Bellew	A
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y

Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Gary Kreidt	Y
Representative Bob Martinson	A
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Representative Corey Mock	Y
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y
Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	A
Representative Mike Schatz	Y
Representative Randy A. Schobinger	Y
Representative Greg Stemen	Y
Representative Michelle Strinden	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	Y

Motion Carries 20-0-3

Representative J. Nelson moved for a Do Pass as Amended

Representative Kreidt Seconds the motion.

Committee Discussion- Roll call vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Larry Bellew	A
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Gary Kreidt	Y
Representative Bob Martinson	A
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Representative Corey Mock	Y
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y
Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	A
Representative Mike Schatz	N

House Appropriations Committee

SB 2181

April 13, 2023

Page 3

Representative Randy A. Schobinger	Y
Representative Greg Stemen	Y
Representative Michelle Strinden	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	Y

Motion Carries 19-1-3 Representative J. Nelson will carry the bill

4:07 PM Chairman Vigesaa Closed the meeting for SB 2181

Risa Berube, Committee Clerk

April 13, 2023

SK
1561
4/14

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2181

In lieu of the amendments adopted by the House as printed on page 1375 of the House Journal, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2181 is amended as follows:

Page 3, line 5, remove "Increase"

Page 3, overstrike lines 6 through 8

Page 3, line 9, overstrike "w."

Page 3, line 10, after "months" insert "Unless the individual has not received temporary assistance for needy families for twelve or more months, the incentive allowance may not be used again after the twelve months"

Page 3, line 11, overstrike "x." and insert immediately thereafter "w."

Page 4, line 22, overstrike "sixty-two" and insert immediately thereafter "seventy-five"

Renumber accordingly

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2181, as engrossed and amended: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends DO PASS (19 YEAS, 1 NAY, 3 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2181, as amended, was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

In lieu of the amendments adopted by the House as printed on page 1375 of the House Journal, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2181 is amended as follows:

Page 3, line 5, remove "Increase"

Page 3, overstrike lines 6 through 8

Page 3, line 9, overstrike "w."

Page 3, line 10, after "months" insert ". Unless the individual has not received temporary assistance for needy families for twelve or more months, the incentive allowance may not be used again after the twelve months"

Page 3, line 11, overstrike "x." and insert immediately thereafter "w."

Page 4, line 22, overstrike "sixty-two" and insert immediately thereafter "seventy-five"

Renumber accordingly

2023 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2181

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee
Fort Lincoln Room, State Capitol

SB 2181
4/21/2023
Conference Committee

Relating to public assistance for pregnant women.

11:33 AM **Chair K. Roers** opened the conference committee meeting. **Senators K. Roers, Cleary, Dever and Representatives McLeod, Frelich, Strinden** are present.

Discussion Topics:

- Proposed amendment
- Conference committee decision

Senator K. Roers calls for discussion.

Committee discussion SB 2181.

Senator Cleary moved Senate accede to House Amendments.

Representative Strinden seconded the motion.

Roll call vote - motion passed 6-0-0.

Representative Strinden is the House bill carrier.

Senator K. Roers is the Senate bill carrier.

11:46 AM **Chair K. Roers** closed the conference committee meeting.

Patricia Lahr, Committee Clerk

Date April 21, 2023

Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2023 SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES**

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2181 as engrossed

Senate Human Services Committee

- Action Taken** **SENATE accede to House Amendments**
 SENATE accede to House Amendments and further amend
 HOUSE recede from House amendments
 HOUSE recede from House amendments and amend as follows
- Unable to agree**, recommends that the committee be discharged and a new committee be appointed

Motion Made by: Senator Cleary Seconded by: Representative Strinden

Senators	4/21		Yes	No	Representatives	4/21		Yes	No
<i>K. Roers, Chair</i>	X		Y		McLeod, Chair	X		Y	
Cleary	X		Y		Frelich	X		Y	
Dever	X		Y		Strinden	X		Y	
Total Senate Vote			3		Total Rep. Vote			3	

Vote Count Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 0

Senate Carrier K. Roers House Carrier Strinden

LC Number _____ . _____ of amendment

LC Number _____ . _____ of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted

Statement of purpose of amendment

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2181, as engrossed: Your conference committee (Sens. K. Roers, Cleary, Dever and Reps. McLeod, Frelich, Strinden) recommends that the **SENATE ACCEDE** to the House amendments as printed on SJ pages 1701-1702 and place SB 2181 on the Seventh order.

Engrossed SB 2181 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

TESTIMONY

SB 2181



*Representing the Diocese of Fargo
and the Diocese of Bismarck*

103 South Third Street
Suite 10
Bismarck ND 58501
701-223-2519
ndcatholic.org
ndcatholic@ndcatholic.org

To: Senate Human Services Committee
From: Christopher Dodson, Executive Director
Subject: Senate Bill 2181 - Public Assistance for Pregnant Women
Date: January 18, 2023

The North Dakota Catholic Conference supports Senate Bill 2181 to better provide assistance to all pregnant women and their children, born and unborn.

For us, the starting principle is that we should respect all human life, no matter what the circumstances of conception or the parent's particular situation. When it comes to assistance to the poor, "need alone is the poor man's worthiness . . ." (St. John Chrysostom, 4th Century.)

Approaching the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF) and Medicaid with this view we can see certain gaps in assistance. Senate Bill 2181 closes those gaps.

Senate Bill 2181 does this by:

- Providing TANF assistance to eligible women no matter what stage of pregnancy. Current law only provides assistance to women who are in their third trimester.
- Providing TANF assistance and Medicaid to otherwise eligible pregnant women who are lawfully present in the United States. Currently, that assistance is only available to legal immigrants if they have been here for more than five years. The child's need, however, is no different if the mother had been here for four years or five years. Moreover, in nine months or less, that child will be a U.S. citizen.
- Removing the "family cap" in TANF so that assistance is provided as needed and not because of the circumstances of the child's conception.
- Making permanent Medicaid coverage for postpartum women for twelve months after the last day of pregnancy. During the 2021 Special Session, the Legislative Assembly provided this coverage, but that legislation expires on June 30, 2023. SB 2181 ensures that this important coverage continues after June 30.

These proposals are included in the North Dakota Catholic Conference's *Responding with Love* set of legislative proposals. Among those proposals, the ones included in SB 2181 have a special place because they close gaps in help for the poorest among us.

Please give a "**Do Pass**" recommendation to SB 2181.



2023 Senate Bill 2181
Senate Human Services Committee
Senator Judy Lee, Chairman
January 18, 2023

Chairman Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee, I am Tim Blasl, President of the North Dakota Hospital Association (NDHA). I testify in support of Senate Bill 2181 and ask that you give the bill a **Do Pass** recommendation.

Hospitals support this bill because it provides coverage for the duration of the pregnancy and the postpartum period consisting of twelve months.

Hospitals feel postpartum visits provide an opportunity to assess a woman's recovery from a pregnancy. By extending the postpartum period this helps ensure pregnant women receive all the services needed.

NDHA supports insurance coverage, and this bill provides it.

Please give the bill a Do Pass recommendation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Blasl, President
North Dakota Hospital Association



Chairwoman Judy Lee and Members of the Senate Human Services Committee –

My name is Sierra Heitkamp and I am the Legislative Director for North Dakota Right to Life. I am testifying today to represent the interests of our 3700 members across the state of North Dakota.

Since the overturn of Roe V. Wade on June 24, 2022, there have been many questions regarding what this means for women and families who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies in North Dakota. At North Dakota Right to Life, we questioned ourselves as to how our vision and goals may have to evolve moving forward to adequately protect those most vulnerable from conception to natural death.

After many conversations, the answer became clear – not only will we continue our work in protecting life at all stages, but we also want to back legislation that educates our citizens, encourages life, and provides aid to those who qualify. A woman or family who finds themselves with an unexpected pregnancy should never feel that abortion is their only option to achieve a successful, happy life.

After discussing SB 2181 with our members and other partners in the pro-life committee, we believe that this is a wonderful step in the right direction for mothers and families in our state. Our goal this year is to work on promoting legislation that helps solidify North Dakota as not only a pro-life state, but a PRO-FAMILY state. This legislation, if passed, would extend benefits for pregnant women in our state in order to ensure they receive the care they need. These benefits “...*must be for the duration of the pregnancy and the postpartum period consisting of the twelve-month period beginning on the last day of the pregnancy,*” as the bill states.

I ask this committee today for a **Do Pass recommendation on SB 2181** in order to uplift and support pregnant women in North Dakota as we continue to promote and encourage life at all stages.

Thank you for your time today and I am available by phone or email to answer any questions you may have.



Sincerely,

Sierra M Heitkamp
Sierra M Heitkamp
 NDRL Legislative Director



(701) 955-8239



office@ndrl.org



P.O. Box 1325, Williston, ND 58801

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Special Session Commencing Monday, November 8, 2021**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1506
(Legislative Management)
(Appropriations Committee)

AN ACT to provide an appropriation; to provide for a transfer; to authorize full-time equivalent positions; to amend and reenact section 9 of chapter 46 of the 2021 Session Laws, relating to the beyond visual line of sight unmanned aircraft system program; to provide an exemption; to provide for a report; and to provide an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - STATE TREASURER - ONE-TIME FUNDING - LOCAL FISCAL RELIEF ALLOCATIONS TO POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. In addition to the funding provided under subdivision 1 of section 2 of House Bill No. 1395, as approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly, there is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$3,014,975, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state treasurer for the purpose of providing local fiscal relief allocations to political subdivisions, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided under this section is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 2. TRANSFER - BANK OF NORTH DAKOTA PROFITS - UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA. The industrial commission shall transfer to the university of North Dakota \$750,000 from the current earnings and accumulated undivided profits of the Bank of North Dakota for expenses associated with campus network upgrades, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - ATTORNEY GENERAL - ATTORNEY GENERAL REFUND FUND - SALARY EQUITY INCREASES. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the attorney general refund fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$537,297, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the attorney general for the purpose of providing salary equity increases to employees in the state crime laboratory of the attorney general's office, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 4. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS. Pursuant to subsection 1 of section 26 of Senate Bill No. 2086, as approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly, the department of human services is authorized sixteen full-time equivalent positions for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - ONE-TIME FUNDING - EXEMPTION.

1. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$79,600,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of federal medical assistance percentage adjustments, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided under this section is considered a one-time funding item.
2. Notwithstanding section 7 of House Bill No. 1012, as approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly, the department of human services may use up to \$16,000,000 from general fund savings resulting from federal enhancements or adjustments that cause the federal medical assistance percentage to exceed the rates used by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly for budgeting purposes to address any decreases in the regular federal medical assistance percentage rate for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAID POSTPARTUM COVERAGE. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$600,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of medicaid postpartum coverage, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - LIFESPAN RESPITE CARE PROGRAM. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$386,690, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of the lifespan respite care program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION SERVICES PROGRAM. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$1,936,350, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of the vulnerable adult protection services program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - ONE-TIME FUNDING - SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM VERIFICATION DATABASE. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$239,558, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of a supplemental nutrition assistance program verification database, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided under this section is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES TRANSITION PROGRAM. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$1,168,347, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of children and family services transition program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 11. FUNDING TRANSFERS - EXEMPTION - AUTHORIZATION - REPORT. Notwithstanding section 54-16-04, the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority between line items within subdivision 6 of section 1 of House Bill No. 1394, as approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly, and subdivision 6 of section 2 of House Bill No. 1395, as approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023, as requested by the department of human services. The department of human services shall notify the legislative council of any transfer made pursuant to this section. The department shall report to the budget section after June 30, 2022, any transfer made in excess of \$50,000, and to the appropriations committees of the sixty-eighth legislative assembly regarding any transfers made pursuant to this section.

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - ONE-TIME FUNDING - STATE HOSPITAL. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$200,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of defraying expenses at the state hospital, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided under this section is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON CAPACITY PROGRAM. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$5,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of the money follows the person capacity program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - RANDOLPH SHEPPARD VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM. There is appropriated from federal funds the sum of \$22,663, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services

for the purpose of the Randolph Sheppard vocational rehabilitation program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - FREE THROUGH RECOVERY PROGRAM. There is appropriated out of any special funds derived from income and other sources, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$3,300,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of the free through recovery program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - RETIREMENT AND INVESTMENT OFFICE - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS. There is appropriated out of any moneys from special funds derived from income, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,806,862, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the retirement and investment office for the purpose of new full-time equivalent positions and salary adjustments, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. Of the amount appropriated in this section, \$1,731,862 is for salaries and wages and \$75,000 is for operating expenses. The retirement and investment office is authorized six full-time equivalent positions.

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FUND - STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND - ONE-TIME FUNDING. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the public instruction fund in the state treasury, derived from reimbursements withheld from school districts' integrated formula payments, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$10,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, and from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund, the sum of \$100,000, or so much of the fund as may be necessary, to the department of public instruction for the purpose of information technology project upgrades to the state automated reporting system and the statewide longitudinal data system and for information technology upgrade funding in lieu of withholding from school districts not eligible for federal elementary and secondary school emergency relief funding allocations, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided in this section is a one-time funding item.

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - BANK OF NORTH DAKOTA. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the Bank of North Dakota operating fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,025,369, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the Bank of North Dakota for the purpose of salaries and wages funding, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - ONE-TIME FUNDING - WORKFORCE COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM. There is appropriated from federal funds, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,074,888, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of the workforce community services program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided under this section is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - ONE-TIME FUNDING - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM. There is appropriated from federal funds, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of a community development planning grant program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided under this section is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - ONE-TIME FUNDING - WORKFORCE INNOVATION NETWORK GRANT PROGRAM. There is appropriated from special funds, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of a workforce innovation network grant program, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2023. The funding provided under this section is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 22. AMENDMENT. Section 9 of chapter 46 of the 2021 Session Laws is amended and reenacted as follows:

SECTION 9. BEYOND VISUAL LINE OF SIGHT UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM PROGRAM - MATCHING FUND REQUIREMENT - ONE-TIME FUNDING. The grants line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$1,000,000 from the general fund for grants to an organization dedicated to expanding workforce opportunities, training, and education related to the beyond visual line of sight unmanned aircraft system industry, ~~which the~~ The department of commerce may provide funding under this section only to the extent the organization provides one dollar of matching funds from private or other public sources during the period beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2023, for each one dollar provided by the department. This funding is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 23. EMERGENCY COMMISSION AND BUDGET SECTION SPENDING LIMIT FOR SPECIAL FUNDS - EXEMPTION. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 4 of section 54-16-04.2 regarding the aggregate request limit of \$5,000,000 per biennium, the emergency commission may authorize up to \$20,000,000 of aggregate requests for special funds and other sources under section 54-16-04.2, subject to any budget section approval requirements, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 24. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act becomes effective on December 1, 2021.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1506.

House Vote: Yeas 82 Nays 11 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2021,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State



Senate Human Services Committee

SB 2181

January 18, 2023

Chair Lee and Committee Members, I am Courtney Koebele, executive director of the North Dakota Medical Association. The North Dakota Medical Association is the professional membership organization for North Dakota physicians, residents, and medical students.

The North Dakota Medical Association supports providing Medicaid Coverage 12 months post-partum.

Studies have shown that Medicaid coverage for 12 months post-partum is beneficial to the mother's health.

- Maternal mortality includes not only deaths within a pregnancy, but deaths up to 365 days postpartum.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and The National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) estimate that approximately 29% of pregnancy-related deaths occur between 43 and 365 days postpartum.
- Many pregnancy-related complications require management beyond 60 days postpartum.

NDMA urges a DO PASS on SB 2181.

Amendments to Senate Bill 2181

Page 1, line 11, remove "who are lawfully present in the United States"

Page 1, line 20, remove overstrike over "~~subdivisions~~"

Page 1, line 20 remove "subdivisions a and"

Renumber accordingly



Connected for Life

February 8, 2023

Chairman Dever and Committee Members,

I am writing to urge your support for Senate Bill (SB) 2181 which would allow continuous coverage up to 12 months postpartum for individuals on Medicaid.

The purpose of the Medicaid program is to provide healthcare coverage for low-income individuals and families. Extending postpartum coverage to 12 months for those on Medicaid will help patients to better manage serious and chronic health conditions and reduce negative maternal outcomes.

This extension will help to prevent gaps in healthcare coverage for low-income women during the postpartum period. The need to increase coverage during this period is clear, as 55% of women with coverage through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) at the time of delivery experienced at least one month without healthcare coverage during the six months after delivery.¹ These gaps in coverage are especially problematic for individuals with serious and chronic health conditions; patients who are in the middle of treatment for a life-threatening disease, rely on regular visits with healthcare providers or must take daily medications to manage their chronic conditions cannot afford a sudden elimination of coverage and gap in their care.

Access to care during the postpartum period is especially important for women with serious and chronic conditions that can impact maternal health outcomes, as well as for women who develop such conditions during their pregnancies. One such condition is gestational diabetes which is diabetes that is first diagnosed during pregnancy and can cause serious complications. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) about 6% to 9% of pregnant women develop gestational diabetes. Diabetes during pregnancy has increased in recent years. Recent studies found that from 2000 to 2010, the percentage of pregnant women with gestational diabetes increased 56%.² Gestational diabetes can be managed under the care of medical professionals.

According to the CDC, cardiovascular conditions, thrombotic pulmonary or other embolism, or other non-cardiovascular medical conditions are the leading causes of maternal deaths that occur between 43 days and one year after delivery.³ Women with bleeding disorders are also at elevated risk for postpartum hemorrhage, and secondary postpartum hemorrhage can occur as late as twelve weeks after childbirth.⁴ Additionally, postpartum coverage will extend access to mental healthcare. This is

¹ Daw JR, Hatfield LA, Swartz K, Sommers BD. Women in the United States experience high rates of coverage 'churn' in months before and after childbirth. *Health Aff (Millwood)*. 2017; 36(4): 598–606. Available at: <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/full/10.1377/hlthaff.2016.1241>.

² <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternalinfanthealth/diabetes-during-pregnancy.htm> accessed on 3.1.21

³ Petersen EE, Davis NL, Goodman D, et al. Vital Signs: Pregnancy-Related Deaths, United States, 2011–2015, and Strategies for Prevention, 13 States, 2013–2017. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2019;68:423–429. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6818e1>
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6818e1.htm?s_cid=mm6818e1_w



Connected **for Life**

particularly important given that at least one in ten women experience perinatal depression,⁵ yet less than 20% of women get treated for perinatal mental health conditions postpartum,⁶ even when they do screen positive.⁷

Access to quality, affordable coverage throughout the lifespan is necessary for all patients to manage their health conditions, and many chronic medical conditions that can have implications for maternal outcomes need to be managed before pregnancy as well as during and after delivery

We urge your support of the postpartum coverage outlined in SB 2181. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

Carissa Kemp
Director, Government Affairs and Advocacy
American Diabetes Association,
ckemp@diabetes.org

⁴ VanderMeulen H, Petrucci J, Floros G, Meffe F, Dainty KN, Sholzberg M. The experience of postpartum bleeding in women with inherited bleeding disorders. *Res Pract Thromb Haemost*. 2019 Oct; 3(4): 733-740. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6782019/>.

⁵ Usha Ranji, Ivette Gomez, Alina Salganicoff. Expanding Postpartum Medicaid Coverage. December 21, 2020. Kaiser Family Foundation. Available at: <https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/expanding-postpartum-medicaid-coverage/>

⁶ E. Cox et al. The Perinatal Depression Treatment Cascade: Baby Steps Toward Improving Outcomes. *J Clin Psychiatry* 2016;77(9):1189-1200.

⁷ Goodman JH, Tyer-Viola L: Detection, treatment, and referral of perinatal depression and anxiety by obstetrical providers. *J Womens Health (Larchmt)*. 2010;19:477-490.



**Kayla Schmidt – Interim Executive Director, North Dakota Women’s Network
Support - SB 2181
North Dakota Senate Appropriations Committee**

February 8, 2023

Chair Bekkedahl and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

My name is Kayla Schmidt and I am the Interim Executive Director of the North Dakota Women’s Network (NDWN). We are a statewide organization working towards improving the lives of women and their families through education, advocacy, and activism. I am submitting testimony in support of full funding for Senate Bill 2181.

Our mission includes a focus on healthcare equity, expanding public health efforts, and support for policies that address the unique health care needs of women. In order to have healthier lives for themselves and their families, women need access to adequate medical care. This is especially critical during pregnancy, delivery, and post-delivery.

NDWN is in favor of SB2181’s language providing for the inclusion of services “for the duration of the pregnancy and the postpartum period consisting of the twelve - month period beginning on the last day of the pregnancy.” We ask that the committee approves SB2181 for full funding.

Thank you.

Kayla Schmidt
director@ndwomen.org



Testimony in Support of HB 2181

House Human Services Committee

Chairman Weisz and Members of the House Human Services Committee, my name is Mike Krumwiede appearing on behalf of the American Heart Association in support of House Bill 2181. AHA is a nonpartisan, not for profit organization with more than 800 North Dakotan AHA volunteers who advocate for longer and healthier lives. AHA's mission is to reduce death and disability from heart disease and stroke.

Maternal health is a priority for the AHA, and we are incredibly supportive of extending postpartum Medicaid coverage. Research shows the months following birth is critically important to addressing health issues discovered during pregnancy, or resulting from pregnancy, and will allow:

- Lower income pregnant women to obtain comprehensive care coverage so they can get all the health care services they need to be healthy during and following pregnancy.
- Better birth outcomes due to fewer costly medical complications during pregnancy.
- Lower risk of health problems for the baby during infancy and long-term benefits throughout growth and development.
- A higher rate of women more likely to seek well-child visits and immunizations for their children.
- Fewer children at risk for out-of-home placement.
- Assistance with early identification and treatment of postpartum depression, quitting smoking, preventing violence, and treating substance use disorders.

We are happy that the Department of Health and Human Services for extending postpartum through the administrative process using ARPA funding. With this successful rollout, and making this change a standard policy we fully support HB 2181 and would encourage a DO PASS recommendation. Thank you.



Representing the Diocese of Fargo
and the Diocese of Bismarck

103 South Third Street
Suite 10
Bismarck ND 58501
701-223-2519
ndcatholic.org
ndcatholic@ndcatholic.org

To: House Human Services Committee
From: Christopher Dodson, Executive Director
Subject: Senate Bill 2181 - Public Assistance for Pregnant Women
Date: March 14, 2023

The North Dakota Catholic Conference supports Senate Bill 2181 to better provide assistance to all pregnant women and their children, born and unborn.

For us, the starting principle is that we should respect all human life, no matter what the circumstances of conception or the parent's particular situation. When it comes to assistance to the poor, "need alone is the poor man's worthiness . . ." (St. John Chrysostom, 4th Century.)

Approaching the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (TANF) and Medicaid with this view we can see certain gaps in assistance. Senate Bill 2181 closes those gaps.

Senate Bill 2181 does this by:

- Providing TANF assistance to eligible women no matter what stage of pregnancy. Current law only provides assistance to women who are in their third trimester.
- Providing Medicaid to otherwise eligible pregnant women who are lawfully present in the United States. Currently, that assistance is only available to legal immigrants if they have been here for more than five years. The child's need, however, is no different if the mother had been here for four years or five years. Moreover, in nine months or less, that child will be a U.S. citizen.
- Removing the "family cap" in TANF so that assistance is provided as needed and not because of the circumstances of the child's conception.¹
- Making permanent Medicaid coverage for postpartum women for twelve months after the last day of pregnancy. During the 2021 Special Session, the Legislative Assembly provided this coverage, but that legislation expires on June 30, 2023. SB 2181 ensures that this important coverage continues after June 30.²

These proposals are included in the North Dakota Catholic Conference's *Responding with Love* set of legislative proposals. Among those proposals, the ones included in SB 2181 have a special place because they close gaps in help for the poorest among us.

Please give a **"Do Pass"** recommendation to SB 2181.

¹ This change is also included as part of Senate Bill 2087, which the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) proposed.

² DHHS's proposed budget includes an appropriation to continue this coverage. SB 2181 would codify the coverage.



Chairman Robin Weisz and Members of the House Human Services Committee –

My name is Sierra Heitkamp and I am the Legislative Director for North Dakota Right to Life. I am testifying today to represent the interests of our 3700 members across the state of North Dakota.

Since the overturn of Roe V. Wade on June 24, 2022, there have been many questions regarding what this means for women and families who find themselves in unplanned pregnancies in North Dakota. At North Dakota Right to Life, we questioned ourselves as to how our vision and goals may have to evolve moving forward to adequately protect those most vulnerable from conception to natural death.

After many conversations, the answer became clear – not only will we continue our work in protecting life at all stages, but we also want to back legislation that educates our citizens, encourages life, and provides aid to those who qualify. A woman or family who finds themselves with an unexpected pregnancy should never feel that abortion is their only option to achieve a successful, happy life.

After discussing SB 2181 with our members and other partners in the pro-life committee, we believe that this is a wonderful step in the right direction for mothers and families in our state. Our goal this year is to promote legislation that helps solidify North Dakota as not only a pro-life state, but as a state that protects its most vulnerable. This legislation, if passed, would extend benefits for pregnant women in our state in order to ensure they receive the care they need. These benefits “...*must be for the duration of the pregnancy and the postpartum period consisting of the twelve-month period beginning on the last day of the pregnancy,*” as the bill states.

I ask this committee today for a **Do Pass recommendation on SB 2181** in order to uplift and support pregnant women in North Dakota as we continue to promote and encourage life at all stages.

Thank you for your time today and I am available by phone or email to answer any questions you may have.



Sincerely,

Sierra M Heitkamp
Sierra M Heitkamp
 NDRL Legislative Director



(701) 955-8239



office@ndrl.org



P.O. Box 1325, Williston, ND 58801

23.0465.02002
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
the House Appropriations - Human Resources
Division Committee
April 13, 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2181

In lieu of the amendments adopted by the House as printed on page 1375 of the House Journal, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2181 is amended as follows:

Page 3, line 3, remove "Increase"

Page 3, overstrike lines 4 through 6

Page 3, line 7, overstrike "w."

Page 3, line 8, after "months" insert ". The incentive allowance may not be used again after the twelve months unless the individual has not received temporary assistance for needy families for twelve or more months"

Page 3, line 9, overstrike "x." and insert immediately thereafter "w."

Page 4, line 18, overstrike "sixty-two" and insert immediately thereafter "seventy-five"

Renumber accordingly