

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with Senate Amendments**

Fifty-seventh  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1234**

Introduced by

Representative DeKrey

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 23-12-14 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to consent to release of medical records.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 23-12-14 of the 1999 Supplement to the North  
5 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **23-12-14. Copies of medical records.**

7 1. As used in this section, "medical provider" means a licensed individual or licensed  
8 facility providing health care services. This section applies to every medical  
9 provider unless expressly provided otherwise by law. Upon the written request of  
10 a medical provider's patient or any person authorized by a patient, the medical  
11 provider shall:

- 12 a. Provide a free copy of a patient's medical records to a medical provider
- 13 designated by the patient or the person authorized by the patient if the
- 14 records are requested for the purpose of transferring that patient's medical
- 15 care to another medical provider for the continuation of medical treatment.
- 16 b. Provide a copy of a patient's medical records requested for any purpose other
- 17 than the continuation of care for a maximum charge of twenty dollars for the
- 18 first twenty-five pages and seventy-five cents per page for every page beyond
- 19 twenty-five. This charge includes any administrative fee, retrieval fee, and
- 20 postage expense.

21 2. a. A Except as specified in section 26.1-36-12.4 or subsection 3, a written  
22 medical records release must be for a specific stated time, but not to exceed  
23 three years or until revoked in writing by the patient is valid for the period of  
24 time specified in the release or three years, whichever is shorter.

- 1            b. A patient or any person authorized by the patient may revoke a medical  
2            records release at any time by providing written notification to the medical  
3            provider.
- 4            3. Notwithstanding the period of validity under subdivision a of subsection 2, a signed  
5            medical records release authorizes a medical provider to forward a patient's  
6            medical records to another medical provider during the period of time necessary to  
7            complete the patient's course of treatment and to conclude all medical and  
8            financial aspects of the case.