

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the development of a program for services to transition-aged youth at
3 risk; to provide for a pilot project; and to provide an appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Transition-aged youth at risk program - Definition - Rules.**

8 1. The department shall develop and implement or contract for the implementation of
9 a program for services to transition-aged youth at risk. The department shall use
10 a wraparound planning process. The department shall adopt rules to establish
11 eligibility, services, and a distinct statewide interagency advisory council on
12 transition-aged youth at risk, with youth and family representation, and with
13 regional subcommittees. For the purposes of this section, transition-aged youth
14 means children and young adults at risk due to:

- 15 a. Foster care, deprivation, or activity in the juvenile justice system;
16 b. Serious mental illness or serious disabilities that do not qualify the youth for
17 developmental disabilities case management; or
18 c. Suicidal tendencies.

19 2. Within the limits of appropriations, services under the program must include:

- 20 a. Individualized assessments to determine the needs and appropriate services
21 to individual transition-aged youth at risk;
22 b. Single plan of care to coordinate services among available service systems,
23 emphasizing existing case management resources;
24 c. Independent living skills, including self-advocacy training;

- 1 d. Enhanced or extended vocational rehabilitation, including transition from
2 education to employment and from secondary education to higher education;
3 e. In-home support, including mentors, individual and family training, and access
4 to respite care; and
5 f. Development of a statewide independent living skills curriculum for youth and
6 families.
- 7 3. Services to an individual youth must be appropriate to that individual and need not
8 include all services of the program.

9 **SECTION 2. TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH AT RISK PILOT PROJECT.** During the
10 2009-11 biennium, the department of human services shall develop and implement on a pilot
11 basis a program that provides those services listed in subsection 2 of section 1 of this Act. The
12 pilot program must be conducted at an accessible location in an urban community with a large
13 population of transition-aged youth at risk and must be open for various relevant community
14 service providers that provide those services in that community.

15 **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
16 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$700,000, or so much
17 of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of
18 establishing and implementing a pilot program for transition-aged youth at risk as provided in
19 section 2 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.