

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

SENATE BILL NO. 2432
(Senator O'Connell)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsections 1 and 3 of section 65-05-28.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to preferred providers for work-related injuries.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsections 1 and 3 of section 65-05-28.2 of the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

1. During the first ~~sixty~~ thirty days after a work injury, an employee of an employer who has selected a preferred provider under this section may seek medical treatment only from the preferred provider for the injury. Treatment by a provider other than the preferred provider is not compensable and the organization may not pay for treatment by a provider who is not a preferred provider, unless a referral was made by the preferred provider. A provider who is not a preferred provider may not certify disability or render an opinion about any matter pertaining to the injury, including causation, compensability, impairment, or disability. This section does not apply to emergency care nor to any care the employee reasonably did not know was related to a work injury.
3. After ~~sixty~~ thirty days have passed following the injury, the employee may make a written request to the organization to change providers. The employee shall make the request and serve it on the employer and the organization at least thirty days prior to treatment by the provider. The employee shall state the reasons for the request and the employee's choice of provider.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2432.

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 88 Nays 0 Absent 6

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2009.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2009.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2009,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State