

**Testimony
Human Services Committee
Department of Human Services
Representative Alon Wieland, Chairman
October 4, 2012**

Chairman Wieland, members of the Human Services Committee, I am Tina Bay, Director of the Developmental Disabilities Division for the Department of Human Services. I am here today to provide an update on the development of a new Developmental Disabilities Reimbursement System pursuant to Section 1 of 2011 Senate Bill No. 2043.

The steering committee, which consists of nine representatives from developmental disabilities providers, five Department of Human Services staff, and the president of the North Dakota Association of Community Providers continues to meet with the consultant, JVGA on the development of the new reimbursement system.

For all providers that submitted their general ledgers and current staffing patterns, JVGA completed an analysis and presented draft rate schedules to the steering committee in June 2012. Along with the development of the draft rate schedules, JVGA also prepared a provider-specific budget impact analysis. As a result of these analysis and discussion with members of the steering committee, JVGA determined it was necessary to reevaluate portions of the general ledgers and that the draft rate schedules may require modifications. JVGA plans to reissue the revised draft rate schedules with the funded percentages to the steering committee later this month. As a result of the revised draft rate schedules, the consultant will be preparing another provider-specific

budget impact analysis along with an initial budget impact analysis for the department.

In addition to the development of the rate schedules, JVGA is preparing to present to the steering committee in November their recommendations on linking the Support Intensity Scale (SIS) to the rate schedules.

Along with the work that JVGA is doing on the rate structure, the Rushmore Group continues to complete the SIS assessments on consumers throughout the state. These assessments look at consumer's individual needs and the level of support appropriate to meet those needs.

The department will continue this work into the 2013 - 2015 biennium and expects to implement the new rate structure in the later part of the biennium.

This concludes my testimony, and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.