

Introduced by

Human Services Committee

(At the request of the Department of Human Services)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 50-33-02 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to eligibility decisions for child care assistance.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 50-33-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **50-33-02. Child care assistance - Application for benefits - Applicant's duty to**
7 **establish eligibility - Decisions - Rules.**

- 8 1. An individual desiring child care assistance or an individual seeking assistance on
9 behalf of another individual may apply for child care assistance. An applicant shall
10 submit a request for child care assistance in writing to a county agency on a form
11 prescribed by the department. The applicant shall complete, sign, and date the
12 application. Eligibility begins on the first day of the month in which a signed and dated
13 application is received by the county agency. Eligibility may begin on the first day of
14 the month prior to the month in which a signed and dated application is received by
15 the county agency, if the applicant requests child care assistance for that month and
16 demonstrates eligibility in that month.
- 17 2. The applicant shall provide information sufficient to establish the eligibility of each
18 individual for whom assistance is requested, including the age, verification of relative
19 relationship, citizenship or resident alien status of the children, verification of
20 participation in an allowable activity, and financial eligibility.
- 21 3. An eligibility decision must be made within ~~fifteen~~thirty days on child care assistance
22 applications whenever possible. The county agency shall notify the applicant following
23 a determination of eligibility or ineligibility.

- 1 4. The department shall establish rules for the administration of the child care assistance
- 2 program, including rules on income requirements, appeals of eligibility determinations
- 3 for child care assistance, closure of a child care assistance case, and a sliding scale
- 4 fee schedule for child care assistance benefits and to establish and enforce standards
- 5 against program fraud and abuse.