

**SECOND ENGROSSMENT
with House Amendments
REENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2048**

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Human Services Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide appropriations to the department of human services for improving
2 behavioral health services and for substance abuse treatment services; to provide for reports to
3 the legislative management; and to provide for legislative management studies.

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

5 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - BEHAVIORAL**
6 **HEALTH ACTIVITIES FACILITATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
7 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so much of the
8 sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of facilitating
9 the behavioral health activities required of the department of human services, for the biennium
10 beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2017.

11 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - REPORT TO**
12 **THE LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
13 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$750,000, or so much of the
14 sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of establishing
15 and administering a voucher system to address underserved areas and gaps in the state's
16 substance abuse treatment system, and to assist in the payment of addiction treatment services
17 provided by private licensed substance abuse treatment programs, for the period beginning
18 July 1, 2016, and ending June 30, 2017. Services eligible for the voucher program include only
19 those levels of care recognized as effective by the American society of addiction medicine, with
20 particular emphasis given to underserved areas and programs focusing on youth services. The
21 department of human services shall ensure that a private licensed substance abuse treatment
22 program accepting vouchers under this Act collects and reports process and outcome
23 measures. The department of human services shall develop requirements and provide training
24 and technical assistance to a private licensed substance abuse treatment program accepting

1 vouchers under this Act. A private licensed substance abuse treatment program accepting
2 vouchers under this Act shall provide evidence-based services. Before July 1, 2016, the
3 department of human services shall provide a report to the legislative management regarding
4 the rules adopted to establish and administer the voucher system to assist in the payment of
5 addiction treatment services provided by private licensed substance abuse treatment programs.

6 **SECTION 3. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES ANALYSIS - REPORT.** During the
7 2015-16 interim, the department of human services shall perform a cost-benefit analysis of the
8 substance abuse treatment voucher system. The analysis must determine whether the program
9 has allowed or will allow for cost savings in other department programs. The department of
10 human services shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-fifth legislative
11 assembly on the results of the cost-benefit analysis.

12 **SECTION 4. ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUES -**
13 **INCORPORATION IN TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**
14 **MANAGEMENT.**

- 15 1. During the 2015-16 interim, the state board of higher education shall convene an
16 advisory committee to address the desirability and feasibility of increasing the
17 exposure of students enrolled in teacher preparation programs to the variety of mental
18 and behavioral health issues that the students are likely to encounter upon
19 commencement of their professional teaching careers.
- 20 2. The membership of the advisory committee must be determined by a majority of the
21 following:
- 22 a. The commissioner of higher education;
 - 23 b. The superintendent of public instruction;
 - 24 c. The director of the department of human services;
 - 25 d. The director of the state department of health;
 - 26 e. A representative of the education standards and practices board;
 - 27 f. A member of the house of representatives, appointed by the legislative
28 management; and
 - 29 g. A member of the senate, appointed by the legislative management.
- 30 3. The membership of the advisory committee must be geographically balanced and
31 include:

- 1 a. Representatives of public and private teacher education programs in the state;
 - 2 b. Providers of behavioral health services to children under the age of eighteen;
 - 3 c. Providers of mental health services to children under the age of eighteen;
 - 4 d. Representatives of mental health advocacy organizations;
 - 5 e. Representatives of the juvenile court;
 - 6 f. Representatives of law enforcement; and
 - 7 g. Representatives of Indian tribes in this state.
- 8 4. The committee shall meet as necessary to achieve the objective set forth in
9 subsection 1 and shall present a report before September 1, 2016, to a committee
10 designated by the legislative management.

11 **SECTION 5. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - ADULT MENTAL HEALTH**

12 **ASSESSMENT NETWORK.** During the 2015-16 interim, the legislative management shall
13 consider studying mental health assessment networks for adults. The study must identify the
14 populations that may benefit from an adult mental health assessment network, the challenges
15 and any deficiencies that may exist, and alternative assessment delivery frameworks, and must
16 provide details of how assessment networks may be integrated into the existing mental health
17 delivery system. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations,
18 together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fifth
19 legislative assembly.

20 **SECTION 6. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF**

21 **YOUTH AND ADULTS.** During the 2015-16 interim, the legislative management shall consider
22 studying behavioral health needs. The study must include consideration of behavioral health
23 needs of youth and adults and access, availability, and delivery of services. The study must
24 include input from stakeholders, including representatives of law enforcement, social and
25 clinical service providers, education, medical providers, mental health advocacy organizations,
26 emergency medical service providers, juvenile court, tribal government, and state and local
27 agencies and institutions. The study must also address the development of a grant program for
28 mental health first-aid training for teachers and nonlicensed school staff, the monitoring and
29 reviewing of strategies to improve behavioral health services implemented pursuant to
30 legislation enacted by the sixty-fourth legislative assembly and other behavioral health-related
31 recommendations presented to the 2013-14 interim human services committee. The legislative

Sixty-fourth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation
- 2 required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fifth legislative assembly.