

Sixty-fourth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

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 -- YOUTH-~~

6 ~~MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT NETWORK.~~ There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
7 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,500,000, or so
8 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services to begin to
9 develop a youth mental health assessment network, for the period beginning July 1, 2016, and
10 ending June 30, 2017. The department of human services shall develop requirements for a
11 youth mental health assessment network and shall ensure that entities accepting funding as
12 part of the youth mental health assessment network developed under this section report
13 process and outcome measures.

14 ~~—SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION -- DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES -- PILOT-~~

15 ~~PROJECT -- DISCHARGE PLANNING PROTOCOLS.~~ There is appropriated out of any moneys
16 in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$175,000, or so
17 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of
18 establishing a pilot project involving law enforcement, health care providers, and other related
19 organizations in one region to develop planning protocols for discharge or release of individuals
20 with behavioral health issues, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30,
21 2017. The protocols must include outcome measures. The requirements of chapter 54-44.4 do
22 not apply to the selection of a grantee, the grant award, or payments made under this section.

23 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - BEHAVIORAL**
24 **HEALTH FTE ACTIVITIES FACILITATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the

1 | general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ~~\$166,092~~\$100,000, or
2 | so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose
3 | of ~~hiring one full-time equivalent employee to facilitate~~facilitating the behavioral health activities
4 | required of the department of human services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, and
5 | ending June 30, 2017.

6 | **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES -**

7 | ~~REPORTS~~REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT. There is appropriated out of any
8 | moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of
9 | ~~\$2,000,000~~\$750,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human
10 | services for the purpose of ~~addressing~~establishing and administering a voucher system to
11 | address underserved areas and gaps in the state's substance abuse treatment system,
12 | ~~including intervention, detoxification, and recovery services, for the biennium beginning July 1,~~
13 | ~~2015, and ending June 30, 2017. The department of human services shall ensure recipients of~~
14 | ~~funding under this section collect and report process and outcome measures. Recipients of~~
15 | ~~funding under this section shall implement research-based programs. The department of human~~
16 | ~~services shall require recipients of funding under this section to develop sustainability plans and~~
17 | ~~participate in training and technical assistance. The department of human services shall report~~
18 | ~~to the legislative management on the use of these funds by July 1, 2016~~and to assist in the
19 | payment of addiction treatment services provided by private licensed substance abuse
20 | treatment programs, for the period beginning July 1, 2016, and ending June 30, 2017. Services
21 | eligible for the voucher program include only those levels of care recognized as effective by the
22 | American society of addiction medicine, with particular emphasis given to underserved areas
23 | and programs focusing on youth services. The department of human services shall ensure that
24 | a private licensed substance abuse treatment program accepting vouchers under this Act
25 | collects and reports process and outcome measures. The department of human services shall
26 | develop requirements and provide training and technical assistance to a private licensed
27 | substance abuse treatment program accepting vouchers under this Act. A private licensed
28 | substance abuse treatment program accepting vouchers under this Act shall provide evidence-
29 | based services. Before July 1, 2016, the department of human services shall provide a report to
30 | the legislative management regarding the rules adopted to establish and administer the voucher

1 [system to assist in the payment of addiction treatment services provided by private licensed](#)
2 [substance abuse treatment programs.](#)

3 **SECTION 3. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES ANALYSIS - REPORT.** During the
4 2015-16 interim, the department of human services shall perform a cost-benefit analysis of the
5 substance abuse treatment voucher system. The analysis must determine whether the program
6 has allowed or will allow for cost savings in other department programs. The department of
7 human services shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-fifth legislative
8 assembly on the results of the cost-benefit analysis.

9 **SECTION 4. ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUES -**
10 **INCORPORATION IN TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**
11 **MANAGEMENT.**

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

- 1 d. Representatives of mental health advocacy organizations;
 - 2 e. Representatives of the juvenile court;
 - 3 f. Representatives of law enforcement; and
 - 4 g. Representatives of Indian tribes in this state.
- 5 4. The committee shall meet as necessary to achieve the objective set forth in
6 subsection 1 and shall present a report before September 1, 2016, to a committee
7 designated by the legislative management.

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

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

17 ~~— SECTION 6. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING~~
18 ~~AND ASSESSMENT FOR CHILDREN.~~ During the 2015-16 interim, the legislative management
19 ~~shall consider studying mental health screening and assessment programs for children. If~~
20 ~~conducted, the study must identify a potential standardized screening process using evidence-~~
21 ~~based practices to routinely screen all children ages two through four at primary health care~~
22 ~~sites. The study must also review the feasibility and desirability of implementing a visiting~~
23 ~~nurses program for children ages zero through five. The legislative management shall report its~~
24 ~~findings and recommendations, along with any legislation required to implement the~~
25 ~~recommendations, to the sixty-fifth legislative assembly.~~

26 **SECTION 6. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF**
27 **YOUTH AND ADULTS.** During the 2015-16 interim, the legislative management shall consider
28 studying behavioral health needs. The study must include consideration of behavioral health
29 needs of youth and adults and access, availability, and delivery of services. The study must
30 include input from stakeholders, including representatives of law enforcement, social and
31 clinical service providers, education, medical providers, mental health advocacy organizations,

Sixty-fourth
Legislative Assembly

1 emergency medical service providers, juvenile court, tribal government, and state and local
2 agencies and institutions. The study must also ~~include consideration of developing~~address the
3 development of a grant program for mental health first-aid training for teachers and
4 ~~noncertified nonlicensed~~ school staff ~~and, the~~ monitoring and reviewing ~~the~~of strategies to
5 improve behavioral health services implemented pursuant to legislation enacted by the
6 sixty-fourth legislative assembly and other behavioral health-related recommendations
7 presented to the 2013-14 interim human services committee. The legislative management shall
8 report its findings and recommendations, ~~along~~together with any legislation required to
9 implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fifth legislative assembly.