

**Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2017**

SENATE BILL NO. 2116
(Human Services Committee)
(At the request of the Department of Human Services)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 50-25.1-03.1 and subsection 3 of section 50-25.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the disclosure of patient records relevant to an assessment of reported child abuse or neglect.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 50-25.1-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

50-25.1-03.1. Photographs - X-rays - Medical tests.

Any person or official required to report under this chapter may cause to be taken color photographs of the areas of trauma visible on a child who the person or official has knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect is an abused or neglected child and, if indicated by medical consultation, cause to be performed imaging studies, laboratory tests, colposcopies, and other medical tests of the child without the consent of the child's parents or guardian. All photographs and other visual images taken pursuant to this section must be taken by law enforcement officials, physicians, or medical facility professionals upon the request of any person or official required to report under this chapter. Photographs and visual images, or copies of them, must be sent to the department or the department's designee at the time the initial report of child abuse or neglect is made or as soon thereafter as possible. ~~Imaging studies or copies of the studies and copies of results of other tests conducted under this section must be provided to the department or the department's designee upon request.~~

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Subsection 3 of section 50-25.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3. Except as prohibited under title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, part 2, a ~~regional human service center~~medical, dental, or mental health professional, hospital, medical or mental health facility, or health care clinic shall disclose to the department or the department's authorized agent, upon request, the records of a patient or client which are relevant to an assessment of reported child abuse or neglect or to a services required decision. The department, or the department's authorized agent, shall limit the request for records to the minimum amount of records necessary to enable a determination to be made or to support a determination of whether services are required to provide for the protection and treatment of an abused or neglected child.

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-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2116.

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 66 Nays 22 Absent 6

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2017.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2017.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2017,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State