

Sixty-sixth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2291

Introduced by

Senators J. Lee, Hogan, K. Roers

Representatives Dockter, Mock

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to creation of a trauma-informed practices working group; to provide for  
3 a report to the legislative management; and to provide an expiration date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Trauma-informed practices working group - Membership - Duties - Network - Reports**  
8 **to legislative management.**

9 1. The behavioral health division shall establish and provide administrative services for a  
10 trauma-informed practices working group. The working group shall:

11 a. Assess and guide efforts to provide evidence-based trauma treatment models  
12 and services within the state's system of care. The assessment must include  
13 identification of gaps in the state's system.

14 b. Establish, implement, and maintain a statewide plan for trauma-informed care  
15 which may include establishing a system for:

16 (1) Trauma screening of adults and children who enter the state's system of  
17 care;

18 (2) Trauma-sensitive strategies for providing care plans for individuals with a  
19 positive response to the screening; and

20 (3) Referral resources to inform individuals with trauma histories about trauma-  
21 informed services and supports.

22 c. Establish and provide public and private workforce and professional education  
23 training and support material regarding trauma-informed practices.

24 d. Make recommendations to improve and support trauma-informed practices.

- 1 e. Engage public and private stakeholders in performing the duties of the working
- 2 group.
- 3 f. Provide annual reports to the legislative management regarding the status of the
- 4 working group's activities and any recommendations.
- 5 2. The working group membership must include representatives of:
- 6 a. The department of corrections and rehabilitation;
- 7 b. The state department of health;
- 8 c. The state board of higher education;
- 9 d. The department of human services;
- 10 e. The Indian affairs commission;
- 11 f. The insurance department;
- 12 g. The judicial branch;
- 13 h. The committee on protection and advocacy;
- 14 i. The department of public instruction; and
- 15 j. Other public and private stakeholders identified by the behavioral health division.
- 16 3. The director of the behavioral health division, or the director's designee, shall serve as
- 17 the presiding officer of the working group. The working group shall meet at least
- 18 biannually. Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- 19 4. The department shall maintain a network of clinicians to implement, evaluate, and
- 20 sustain the practice of evidence-based mental health treatment for children who have
- 21 experienced traumatic life events. The network shall maintain an online directory and
- 22 facilitate an ongoing learning community for clinicians trained in trauma-focused
- 23 cognitive behavioral therapy. The network shall also offer trauma-based trainings for
- 24 other child serving systems.

25 **SECTION 2. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through July 31, 2023, and after that  
26 date is ineffective.