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Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2159

Introduced by

Senators Lee, Hogan, K. Roers

Representatives Mitskog, M. Ruby, Strinden

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 50-06-43.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to membership of the children's cabinet.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 50-06-43.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

50-06-43.1. Children's cabinet - Membership - Duties.

1. The children's cabinet is created to assess, guide, and coordinate the care for children across the state's branches of government and the tribal nations.
2. The children's cabinet consists of the following members:
   a. The governor, or the governor's designee;
   b. The chief justice of the supreme court, or the chief justice's designee;
   c. The ~~speaker of the house of representatives, or the speaker's designee~~chairman of the legislative management, or a member of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management, who shall serve as the presiding officer of the cabinet;
   d. ~~The president pro tempore of the senate, or the president pro tempore's designee~~A member of the house of representatives and a member of the senate, one of whom serves as a member of the education standing committee and one of whom serves as a member of the human services standing committee, who are appointed by the chairman of the legislative management;
   e. The superintendent of public instruction, or the superintendent's designee;
   f. The director of the committee on protection and advocacy, or the director's designee;

g. A representative of the tribal nations in the state, who is appointed by the governor; and

h. Four individuals representing parents, private service providers, or other community interests, who are appointed by the governor to serve a term of two years, at the pleasure of the governor, and who are entitled to reimbursement from the department for travel and lodging at the same rate as provided for state officers and employees.

3. ~~The chairman of legislative management, or a member of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management shall serve as the presiding officer of the cabinet.~~ The cabinet shall meet at least quarterly. Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the presiding officer.

4. The children's cabinet shall:

a. Coordinate broad-based leadership across programs, agencies, branches of government, and tribal nations to meet the needs of children;

b. Develop strategies to address gaps or needs regarding early care and education, medical and behavioral health, community, child welfare, and juvenile justice;

c. Develop strategies to provide for the full continuum of care in the delivery of services, including promotion, prevention, early identification and intervention, service delivery, and recovery;

d. Seek to engage cooperation across public and private service providers;

e. Provide a comprehensive vision for how and where children are best served, attending to children in a respectful and relevant manner;

f. Seek strategies to provide services to children without consideration of prior engagement with juvenile services;

g. Provide for the active participation of consumers and providers statewide on advisory committees; and

h. Receive information and recommendations from the department of health and human services, department of corrections and rehabilitation, and other state agencies.

5. The department shall provide the children's cabinet with staffing and administrative services.