

Introduced by

Senator Hogan

Representative Dakane

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of health and human services
2 for early childhood programs.

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

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES -**
5 **EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
6 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$30,000,000, or so much of
7 the sum as may be necessary, to the department of health and human services for the purpose
8 of awarding grants for early childhood programs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and
9 ending June 30, 2025. The department shall award grants with the funds appropriated in this
10 section based on recommendations from the children's cabinet under section 50-06-43.1 to:
11 1. Expand the four-year old best-in-class program to ensure at least fifty percent of
12 four-year old children in the state have a program available to them;
13 2. Supplement funding for federally funded head start programs to assure all eligible
14 children are served;
15 3. Develop a system of quality ratings for afterschool programs; and
16 4. Improve other early childhood programs, including school-based programs, with
17 priority given to programs in underserved areas.