

January 29, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2171

Introduced by

Senators Mathern, Roers

Representatives Porter, Rohr

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 25-03.1-26 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to an emergency mental health petition; and to declare an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 25-03.1-26 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **25-03.1-26. Emergency procedure - Acceptance of petition and individual - Notice -**
7 **Court hearing set.**

8 1. A public treatment facility immediately shall accept and a private treatment facility may
9 accept on a provisional basis the application and the individual admitted under section
10 25-03.1-25. The superintendent or director shall require an immediate examination of
11 the subject and,

12 2. ~~After the individual contacts the provider conducting the examination, exclusive of~~
13 ~~holidays and weekends, either within twenty-four hours, exclusive of holidays, after~~
14 ~~admission or within~~ Within seventy-two hours after admission, exclusive of holidays, if
15 ~~the individual is admitted with a serious physical condition or illness that requires~~
16 ~~prompt treatment within seventy-two hours~~ as medically necessary, the superintendent
17 or director shall either:

18 a. Release the individual if the superintendent or director finds that the subject does
19 not meet the emergency commitment standards; or

1 b. File a petition if one has not been filed with the court of the individual's residence
2 or the court which directed immediate custody under subsection 2 of section
3 25-03.1-25, giving notice to the court and stating in detail the circumstances and
4 facts of the case.

5 ~~2.3.~~ Upon receipt of the petition and notice of the emergency detention, the magistrate
6 shall set a date for a preliminary hearing, if the respondent is alleged to be a ~~person~~an
7 individual who is mentally ill or a ~~person~~an individual who is ~~both~~ mentally ill and has a
8 substance use disorder, or a treatment hearing, if the respondent is alleged to be a
9 ~~person~~an individual who has a substance use disorder, to be held no later than four
10 days, exclusive of weekends and holidays, after detention unless the ~~person~~individual
11 has been released as a ~~person~~an individual not requiring treatment, has been
12 voluntarily admitted for treatment, has requested or agreed to a continuance, or unless
13 the hearing has been extended by the magistrate for good cause shown. The
14 magistrate shall appoint counsel if one has not been retained by the respondent.

15 **SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.