

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1464

Introduced by

Representatives Dobervich, K. Anderson, Brown, Finley-DeVille, Hager, Hanson, Rohr,
Steiner

Senators Hogan, Mathern

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-12 and a new section to
2 chapter 50-24.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to postpartum doula certification
3 and medical assistance benefits for postpartum doula services.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 23-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Postpartum doula certification.**

8 1. As used in this section:

- 9 a. "Certified doula" means an individual who has received a certification to perform
10 doula services from the doulas of North America or an organization designated
11 by the department.
- 12 b. "Department" means the department of health and human services.
- 13 c. "Doula services" means education and support services for a parent and child,
14 including continuous emotional and physical support during the postpartum
15 period, including up to six months after the birth of the child.

16 2. The department may:

- 17 a. Designate additional doula certification organizations;
- 18 b. Remove the designation of a doula certification organization; and
- 19 c. Adopt rules to implement and administer this section.

20 3. The department shall establish criteria for the designation of doula certification
21 organizations and maintain a list of designated organizations on the department's
22 website for purposes of facilitating the availability of certified doulas to provide doula
23 services under section 2 of this Act.

1 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 50-24.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
2 and enacted as follows:

3 **Medical assistance benefits - Postpartum doula services.**

- 4 1. Medical assistance coverage, including Medicaid expansion coverage, must include
5 coverage of postpartum doula services, as defined in section 1 of this Act.
6 2. The department shall provide notice to an enrollee regarding the coverage required by
7 this section.