

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1338
(Representatives M. Ruby, Beltz, Bolinske, J. Olson, D. Johnston, Klemin)
(Senators Bekkedahl, Dever, Lee, Roers, Wobbema)

AN ACT to create and enact a new subsection to section 50-25.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a determination by the department of health and human services of an individual's military status in child abuse and neglect assessments.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new subsection to section 50-25.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

The department or authorized agent shall determine the military status of any individual subject to an assessment, at the initiation of a child abuse or neglect assessment. If the department determines an allegation of abuse or neglect involves a military-affiliated individual, the department shall notify the nearest military installation's family advocacy program of the allegation and investigation. The military installation is responsible for reporting the data to the federal department of defense. The department may develop a memorandum of understanding for use by the human service zone. For purposes of this subsection:

- a. "Military-affiliated individual" means an individual with an active military status and the individual's dependents.
- b. "Military status" includes any branch of the United States military, and the national guard or reserve.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1338.

House Vote: Yeas 90 Nays 0 Absent 4

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2025,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State