

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1012 (Nelson IMD)

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of various divisions of the department of health and human services; to provide an exemption; ~~and~~ to amend and reenact section 50-06-42 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to substance use disorder treatment voucher system; to provide for a report; and to provide an effective date.

SECTION 9. AMENDMENT. Section 50-06-42 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

50-06-42. Substance use disorder treatment voucher system.

1. The department shall establish and administer, within the limits of legislative appropriations, a voucher system to address underserved areas and gaps in the state's substance abuse treatment system and to assist in the payment of addiction treatment services and medical costs provided by licensed substance abuse treatment programs, excluding regional human service centers and hospital- or medical clinic-based programs for medical management of withdrawal. An out-of-state licensed substance abuse treatment program located within a bordering state may participate in the voucher program to serve an underserved area of this state pursuant to the rules adopted by the department. The department shall develop rules to include processes and requirements for an out-of-state provider to receive reimbursement only for outpatient and community-based services upon a provider completing an assessment of need and receiving approval from the department.
2. Services eligible for the voucher program include only those levels of care recognized by the American society of addiction medicine, with particular emphasis given to underserved areas and programs. The department shall ensure that a licensed substance abuse treatment program, hospital, and medical clinic program accepting vouchers collects and reports process and outcome measures.

3. The department shall develop requirements and provide training and technical assistance to a licensed substance abuse treatment program, hospital, and medical clinic program accepting vouchers. A licensed substance abuse treatment program, hospital, and medical clinic program accepting vouchers shall provide evidence-based services.
4. The department shall allocate funding appropriated for the substance use disorder treatment voucher as follows:
 - a. ~~No~~Except as provided in subdivision c, no more than forty-five percent of the appropriated amount may be allocated for residential substance use disorder services administered by licensed substance abuse treatment programs with more than sixteen beds.
 - b. The remaining appropriation must be allocated for residential programs with sixteen or fewer beds, nonresidential outpatient, and ancillary substance use disorder services administered by licensed substance abuse treatment programs.
 - c. The department may reimburse a licensed substance abuse treatment program with more than sixteen beds the incurred direct medical costs of an eligible individual who does not have resources to cover the medical costs. The department may develop rules and may not exceed the total amount appropriated for medical cost reimbursement.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. Section 9 of this Act becomes effective on July 1, 2026.