

Proposed Amendments to First Engrossment of Engrossed Senate Bill 2029, 3/18/25
Senator Judy Lee

This bill is a hoghouse amendment on a very important subject, which is the establishment of an office of guardianship and conservatorship. It would oversee assignment of guardians to those individuals who are incapable of managing their own affairs, monitor the activity, and assure quality guardians are serving the vulnerable residents of North Dakota.

Section 1 creates a registry on which a guardian who has been removed for good cause would be listed and who would be disqualified from acting as a guardian and lists details.

Section 2 addresses conservators who could be placed on a registry, if removed for good cause.

Section 3 has definitions and also establishes the Office of guardianship and conservatorship. It will be a division of the Department of Health and Human Services to administer programs assigned by state law. The Office's responsibilities are listed, including establishing rules, providing reports, training, and monitoring services. Funds will be distributed and other financial services are listed.

Subsection 3 lists additional duties, including, on request from a district court judge, reviewing cases to identify deficiencies, examine reports, and report back to the court.

It also states that the Office's officers and employees may not act as a public guardian or conservator, but that other employees of DHHS outside of the Office of guardianship and conservatorship may act as a guardian or conservator in a personal capacity. The office is subject to audits by the State Auditor.

The Guardianship and Conservatorship Support Fund will be created in the state treasury and all funds will be appropriated on a continuing basis to DHHS to defray expenses of the office for supporting guardianship and conservatorship services, including training and monitoring.

It also discusses records, confidentiality and disclosure.

Guardianship and conservatorship limitations are described, including that an individual (not "person") may not serve as a guardian or conservator for 3 or more adults at the same time, unless that person is licensed or has an agency permit.

It states that the section does not apply to a human service one director as an addition.

Immunity of an individual providing information regarding misconduct or lack of professionalism is not subject to civil liability.

The district court has jurisdiction to revoke or suspend a guardian or a conservator license. The Office of Guardianship and Conservatorship must establish a process to appeal license denials and board orders.

Other statements about court actions are listed.

A guardianship and conservatorship review board is established to investigate and conduct disciplinary proceedings. The requirements for the membership area listed.

The office has a preferred claim against the estate for recovery of funds. It includes the order of claims.

Chapter 27-27 is repealed, which is the task force on guardianship monitoring.

The appropriation to DHHS Office of Guardianship and Conservatorship includes establishment cosets for indigents and for those with developmental disabilities. Total general funds are \$18,446,400 which used to be split between the Office of Management and Budget for indigent guardianships and Department of Health and Human Services for e DHHS. 4 FTE's are requested.

This version of the guardian and conservatorship work and oversight is the result of many months of discussions with guardians and the task force members who were also involved in the efforts to provide more appropriate organization and oversight.

It is removed from the courts, because of the conflict of interest. The courts take away the rights of the ward, assign a guardian to handle the ward's affairs, finances, health decisions, and more, and it would be inappropriate for them to also be the overseer without any accountability on their part.

This amendment makes the Office of Guardianship and Conservatorship a separate division of DHHS, similar to the divisions of behavioral health, Medicaid, developmental disabilities, and more.

In my opinion and that of the guardians who do this work, it is an appropriate way for this important service to be overseen. It also will permit legislative involvement through policy and appropriations. It applies only to professional guardians, not family guardians.

These professional guardians are wonderful, caring custodians of the affairs of the people whom they serve. Including financial affairs and health care decisions in combination with other appropriate parties. They make less than \$20/day, something we need to address also.

The people who will follow me will go through more of the details of the bill, and they are the experts. I encourage you to look favorably on this collaborative recommendation to manage the guardianship and conservatorship programs and support these amendments.

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of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
SECOND ENGROSSMENT**

REENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2029

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Government Finance Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact ~~chapter 27-27.1 and~~ a new subsection to section
2 30.1-28-07 and a new chapter to title 50 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to ~~an office~~
3 ~~of guardianship and conservatorship and~~ the removal of a guardian and an office of
4 guardianship and conservatorship; to amend and reenact section 30.1-29-15 and subsection 1
5 of section 50-24.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the removal of a
6 conservator and the recovery of medical assistance expenses; to repeal chapter 27-27 of the
7 North Dakota Century Code, relating to the task force on guardianship monitoring; ~~to provide a~~
8 ~~penalty~~; to provide for a legislative management report; to provide a penalty; to provide an
9 appropriation; and to provide a continuing appropriation.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** A new subsection to section 30.1-28-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is
12 created and enacted as follows:

13 The court may order a guardian to be listed on a registry if the court removed the
14 guardian for good cause. A guardian listed on the registry is disqualified from acting as
15 a guardian in any guardianship proceeding. The court shall send a copy of the order to
16 the state court administrator, who shall maintain and administer the registry. This
17 subsection does not apply to a licensed guardian. For purposes of this subsection, a
18 licensed guardian includes a guardian whose license has been suspended but
19 excludes a guardian whose license is revoked.

1 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 30.1-29-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **30.1-29-15. (5-415) Death, resignation, or removal of conservator.**

4 1. The court may remove a conservator for good cause, upon notice and hearing, or
5 accept the resignation of a conservator. After a conservator's death, resignation, or
6 removal, the court may appoint another conservator. A conservator so appointed
7 succeeds to the title and powers of the predecessor.

8 2. The court may order a conservator to be listed on a registry if the court removed the
9 conservator for good cause. A conservator listed on the registry is disqualified from
10 acting as a conservator in any conservatorship proceeding. The court shall send a
11 copy of the order to the state court administrator, who shall maintain and administer
12 the registry. This subsection does not apply to a licensed conservator. For purposes of
13 this subsection, a "licensed conservator" includes a conservator whose license has
14 been suspended but excludes a conservator whose license is revoked.

15 ~~SECTION 1. Chapter 27-27.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as~~
16 follows:

17 **SECTION 3.** A new chapter to title 50 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
18 enacted as follows:

19 ~~**27-27.1-01. Definitions.**~~

20 As used in this chapter:

- 21 1. "Agency permit" means temporary authorization given by the office to an employee of
22 a professional guardianship or professional conservatorship entity which allows the
23 permitholder to provide guardianship or conservatorship services as an agent of the
24 entity.
- 25 2. "Board" means the guardianship and conservatorship review board.
- 26 3. "Identifiable information" means an individual's personal details, including the
27 individual's name, address, telephone number, facsimile number, ~~social~~
28 ~~security~~ employment identification number, electronic mail address, program
29 identification number, or any other unique identifying number, characteristic, or code,
30 and any demographic information collected about the individual.
- 31 4. "Investigation counsel" means the guardianship and conservatorship counsel.

- 1 ~~5.~~ "Licensed conservator" means a person licensed by the office to provide
2 conservatorship services.
- 3 ~~6-5.~~ "Licensed guardian" means a person licensed by the office to provide guardianship
4 services.
- 5 ~~7-6.~~ "Office" means the office of guardianship and conservatorship.
- 6 ~~8-7.~~ "Public conservator" means a conservator under contract with the office to provide
7 conservatorship services for an individual eligible for public services.
- 8 ~~9-8.~~ "Public guardian" means a guardian under contract with the office to provide
9 guardianship services for an individual eligible for public services.
- 10 ~~10-9.~~ "Public services" means state or federally funded programs administered by the office
11 available to eligible individuals.
- 12 ~~11-10.~~ "Unlicensed conservator" means a person providing conservatorship services without
13 a conservator license.
- 14 ~~12-11.~~ "Unlicensed guardian" means a person providing guardianship services without a
15 guardian license.
- 16 ~~27-27.1-02.~~ **Office of guardianship and conservatorship - Purpose - Powers and**
17 **duties - Report - Audit.**
- 18 1. The office of guardianship and conservatorship is created as a division under the
19 supreme court department of health and human services to administer the programs
20 assigned by state law or the supreme court.
- 21 2. The office must consist of an executive director, a court monitor, an accountant, and
22 an ethical standards coordinator, however designated.
- 23 3. The office shall:
- 24 a. Develop rules, training, and policies and procedures, including eligibility criteria,
25 for:
- 26 (1) Receiving public services;
- 27 (2) A public guardian or a public conservator;
- 28 (3) A licensed guardian or a licensed conservator; and
- 29 (4) Distribution of funding for direct payments and expense reimbursements for
30 public services.
- 31 b. Develop ethical standards for:

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- 1 (1) A licensed guardian or a licensed conservator; and
2 (2) An unlicensed guardian or an unlicensed conservator.
3 c. Develop policies and procedures for proceedings when a guardian or a
4 conservator is unable to fulfill the duties of a guardian or a conservator.
5 d. Keep accurate records of all financial transactions performed under this chapter
6 in the manner required by the office of management and budget.
7 e. Provide a report each biennium to the legislative management regarding the
8 operations of the office, including the cost of public guardians and public
9 conservators, and any other information requested by the legislative
10 management.
11 ~~3. The office may:~~
12 a-f. Recommend rules applicable to a licensed guardian or a licensed conservator.
13 ~~b-g.~~ Grant licenses to a guardian or conservator and agency permits, including
14 revoking or suspending an agency permit.
15 ~~e-h.~~ Require insurance or bond coverage for a licensed guardian or a licensed
16 conservator as a condition for licensure.
17 ~~d-i.~~ Establish mandatory disclosure and reporting requirements for a licensed
18 guardian or a licensed conservator, including a process to disclose information or
19 submit reports to the office.
20 ~~e-j.~~ Provide training for guardians and conservators.
21 ~~f-k.~~ Monitor guardianship and conservatorship services.
22 ~~g.~~ Provide annual reports to the supreme court.
23 ~~h-l.~~ Distribute funding for direct payments, expense reimbursements, or other public
24 services, including funding for public administrators.
25 ~~i-m.~~ Establish and collect fees to support guardianship and conservatorship services
26 and the duties of the office, which must be deposited in the guardianship and
27 conservatorship support fund.
28 ~~j-n.~~ Seek and apply for private, federal, or other funds to help support guardians and
29 conservators and to safeguard the rights of individuals who receive public
30 services.

1 k.o. Accept private funds for deposit in the guardianship and conservatorship support
2 fund.

3 p. Be available, as resources permit, on request from a district court judge, to
4 review guardianship cases to identify reporting deficiencies, examine annual
5 reports and accounting, and report findings back to the district court.

6 q. Be available, as resources permit, on request from a district court judge, licensed
7 conservator, public conservator, licensed guardian, or public guardian to review
8 information regarding possible financial abuse or exploitation.

9 r. Report findings regarding financial abuse or exploitation to the attorney general
10 or bureau of criminal investigation.

11 4. The office may not authorize payment for services for any public guardian or public
12 conservator that provides services for more individuals than allowed through statute,
13 regulation, court rule, or policy adopted by the office.

14 5. The office, its officers, or its employees, may not act as a public guardian or a public
15 conservator or act in any other representative capacity for any individual. This
16 subsection does not apply to employees of the department of health and human
17 services outside of the office of guardianship and conservatorship and does not
18 prohibit an officer or employee from acting as a guardian or conservator in a personal
19 capacity apart from any duties as an officer or employee.

20 6. The office is subject to audits by the state auditor under chapter 54-10.

21 ~~27-27.1-03. Guardianship and conservatorship support fund - Continuing~~
22 appropriation.

23 There is created in the state treasury the guardianship and conservatorship support fund.
24 The fund consists of all moneys transferred to the fund by the legislative assembly, interest
25 upon moneys in the fund, fee collections, donations, grants, and other contributions received for
26 deposit in the fund. All moneys in the fund are appropriated on a continuing basis to the ~~judicial~~
27 ~~branch~~ department of health and human services to defray the expenses of the office for
28 supporting guardianship and conservatorship services, including guardianship and
29 conservatorship training and monitoring.

1 27-27.1-04. Records - Confidentiality - Disclosure - Penalty.

- 2 1. Identifiable information concerning an individual who is applying for or receiving public
3 services under this chapter is confidential and may be disclosed only:
- 4 a. In the administration of any program under the supervision or administration of
5 the office.
- 6 b. When authorized by a policy or procedure of the office.
- 7 c. When allowed or required by rule or law.
- 8 2. A report concerning an applicant, provider, or recipient of public services is confidential
9 if the report is made in good faith and may be disclosed only to:
- 10 a. Authorized staff and agents of the office, who may further disclose the
11 information to a person that has a definite interest in the well-being of the
12 individual concerned, is in a position to serve the individual's interests, and that
13 needs to know the contents of the records to assure the well-being and interests
14 of the individual concerned.
- 15 b. An individual who is the subject of the report, if the identity of the person
16 reporting or supplying information under this chapter is protected until the
17 information is needed for use in an administrative, legal, or disciplinary
18 proceeding arising out of the report.
- 19 c. A public official and the public official's authorized agent who requires the
20 information in connection with the discharge of official duties.
- 21 d. A court when the court determines the information is necessary for the
22 determination of an issue before the court.
- 23 ~~e. The investigation counsel.~~
- 24 3. The ~~investigation counsel~~ office may disclose information uncovered during a
25 disciplinary investigation to the attorney general or bureau of criminal investigation
26 related to a criminal investigation when the investigation counsel suspects the subject
27 of the investigation has committed a crime.
- 28 4. A person that discloses, authorizes, or knowingly allows, participates in, or acquiesces
29 in the disclosure of confidential information in violation of this section is guilty of a
30 class C felony.

1 | ~~27-27.1-05.~~ Guardianship and conservatorship limitations - Representation to the
2 | public - Exemption.

- 3 | 1. A person may not serve as a guardian or a conservator for three or more adult
4 | individuals at the same time unless that person is a licensed guardian or a licensed
5 | conservator or has an agency permit.
- 6 | 2. A public guardian or a public conservator may not provide services to a minor unless
7 | authorized by a proceeding under section 30.1-28-03.3.
- 8 | 3. A person must be a licensed guardian or a licensed conservator to offer guardianship
9 | or conservatorship services to the public.
- 10 | 4. This section does not apply to:
- 11 | a. A federal or state agency.
- 12 | b. A financial institution under section 6-08.1-01 when appointed as a conservator.
- 13 | c. An individual appointed as a guardian or conservator for a family member.
- 14 | d. A human service zone director.
- 15 | 5. A person who violates this section after August 1, 2026, is guilty of a class B
16 | misdemeanor.

17 | ~~27-27.1-06.~~ Immunity.

18 | A person who in good faith provides information or testimony regarding a guardian's or
19 | conservator's misconduct or lack of professionalism is not subject to civil liability.

20 | ~~27-27.1-07.~~ Jurisdiction - Waiver of court costs - Applicability.

- 21 | 1. The ~~supreme~~ district court has original jurisdiction to revoke or suspend a guardian or a
22 | conservator license.
- 23 | 2. The ~~supreme court~~ office of guardianship and conservatorship must establish a
24 | process to appeal license denials and board orders.
- 25 | 3. The courts shall waive court costs and filing fees in any proceeding in which a person
26 | is receiving public services under this chapter.
- 27 | 4. A guardian or conservator subject to the jurisdiction of a court of this state shall follow
28 | the applicable policies, procedures, and standards of the office, or other approval
29 | authority authorized by court rule, if the guardian or the conservator serves an adult
30 | ward, adult protected person, or incapacitated person, as defined in title 30.1.

~~27-27.1-08. Guardianship and conservatorship review board – Guardianship and conservatorship counsel – Guardianship and conservatorship operations committee.~~

~~1. The supreme court may office of guardianship and conservatorship shall establish a guardianship and conservatorship review board to investigate and conduct disciplinary proceedings for a guardian or conservator. The review board must consist of:~~

- ~~1. A licensed guardian who provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities;~~
- ~~2. A licensed guardian who provides services to indigent individuals;~~
- ~~3. An unlicensed family guardian;~~
- ~~4. A retired judge;~~
- ~~5. An attorney with experience in guardianship;~~
- ~~6. A representative from adult protective services;~~
- ~~7. A representative from the protection and advocacy project; and~~
- ~~8. A member of the public.~~

~~2. The supreme court may establish a guardianship and conservatorship counsel to investigate noncompliance reported under this chapter. The director of the office is the hiring authority for the investigation counsel.~~

~~3. The supreme court must create a guardianship and conservatorship operations committee to supervise the operations of the office and investigation counsel. The operations committee:~~

- ~~a. Must develop and submit budgets for the office, board, and investigation counsel.~~
- ~~b. Is the hiring authority for the office director.~~
- ~~c. May adopt policies recommended by the office.~~

~~27-27.1-09. Supreme court – Discretionary powers:~~

~~The supreme court may:~~

- ~~1. Grant immunity to a member of the board and the board's agents if a district court or the supreme court would have immunity in performing the same functions.~~
- ~~2. Establish confidentiality and disclosure standards for disciplinary proceedings.~~
- ~~3. Authorize officials, officers, agents, and designees of the office, the board, and the investigation counsel to:~~
 - ~~a. Administer oaths.~~

- 1 ~~b. Order and otherwise provide for the inspection of books and records;~~
- 2 ~~c. Issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of~~
- 3 ~~designated documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things in~~
- 4 ~~accordance with the North Dakota Rules of Civil Procedure;~~
- 5 ~~d. Order the deposition of a person residing within or outside the state to be taken in~~
- 6 ~~accordance with the North Dakota Rules of Civil Procedure;~~
- 7 ~~4. Adopt rules to effectuate the powers and duties under this chapter;~~
- 8 ~~**27-27.1-10. Attorney general – Counsel – Bureau of criminal investigation – Primary**~~
- 9 ~~**authority for investigations;**~~
- 10 ~~1. The attorney general shall act as legal counsel in any particular investigation or~~
- 11 ~~proceeding under section 54-12-02. The attorney general shall appear and defend any~~
- 12 ~~officer or employee of the office and any member of the board in any action founded~~
- 13 ~~on an act or omission arising out of performance of an official duty consistent with~~
- 14 ~~section 54-12-01.3;~~
- 15 ~~2. In accordance with chapter 54-12, the attorney general and bureau of criminal~~
- 16 ~~investigation have primary authority to investigate criminal cases related to a~~
- 17 ~~guardianship or conservatorship;~~
- 18 ~~**27-27.1-11. Duty to disclose and cooperate;**~~
- 19 ~~1. A state and local governmental entity and its officers and employees, and the officials,~~
- 20 ~~officers, and employees of the courts of this state shall disclose records and~~
- 21 ~~information requested by the board or investigation counsel or any authorized~~
- 22 ~~representative of the board or investigation counsel and shall cooperate with and give~~
- 23 ~~reasonable assistance to the board or investigation counsel and any authorized~~
- 24 ~~representative of the board or counsel unless prohibited by federal regulation or law;~~
- 25 ~~2. The service of process extends to all parts of the state in any investigation or~~
- 26 ~~disciplinary proceeding under this chapter. A sheriff or police officer shall serve~~
- 27 ~~process and execute all lawful orders upon request of the office, its authorized~~
- 28 ~~representative, the board, or the investigation counsel;~~
- 29 ~~**27-27.1-12. Duties of witnesses – Penalty;**~~
- 30 ~~1. An individual is obliged to attend as a witness in any investigation or disciplinary~~
- 31 ~~proceeding commenced under this chapter;~~

1 ~~2. If an individual refuses to attend, testify, or produce any writings or things required by~~
2 ~~subpoena, the office, board, or investigation counsel that issued the subpoena may~~
3 ~~petition the district court of the district in which the attendance or production is~~
4 ~~required for an order compelling the individual to attend and testify or produce the~~
5 ~~writings or things required by the subpoena. The court shall order the individual to~~
6 ~~appear before the court at a specified time and place to show cause why the individual~~
7 ~~has not attended, testified, or produced the writings or things as required. A copy of~~
8 ~~the order must be served on the individual. If the court determines the subpoena was~~
9 ~~regularly issued, the court shall order the individual to appear at the time and place~~
10 ~~fixed in the order and testify or produce the required writings or things.~~

11 ~~3. An individual who fails to obey an order under this section is guilty of a class A~~
12 ~~misdemeanor.~~

13 **27-27.1-13. Preferred claim.**

- 14 1. The office has a preferred claim against the estate of an individual or an individual's
15 spouse for recovery of funds expended under this chapter for the care of that
16 individual or the individual's spouse. All funds recovered under this chapter must be
17 deposited in the general fund.
- 18 2. A claim may not be required to be paid and interest may not begin to accrue during the
19 lifetime of the decedent's surviving spouse, if any.
- 20 3. A statute of limitation or similar statute or the doctrine of laches may not bar a claim
21 under this chapter.

22 ~~SECTION 2: A new subsection to section 30.1-28-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is~~
23 ~~created and enacted as follows:~~

24 ~~The court may order a guardian to be listed on a registry if the court removed the~~
25 ~~guardian for good cause. A guardian listed on the registry is disqualified from acting as~~
26 ~~a guardian in any guardianship proceeding. The court shall send a copy of the order to~~
27 ~~the state court administrator, who shall maintain and administer the registry. This~~
28 ~~subsection does not apply to a licensed guardian. For purposes of this subsection, a~~
29 ~~licensed guardian includes a guardian whose license has been suspended but~~
30 ~~excludes a guardian whose license is revoked.~~

1 ~~SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 30.1-29-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is~~
2 ~~amended and reenacted as follows:~~

3 ~~30.1-29-15. (5-415) Death, resignation, or removal of conservator.~~

4 ~~1. The court may remove a conservator for good cause, upon notice and hearing, or~~
5 ~~accept the resignation of a conservator. After a conservator's death, resignation, or~~
6 ~~removal, the court may appoint another conservator. A conservator so appointed~~
7 ~~succeeds to the title and powers of the predecessor.~~

8 ~~2. The court may order a conservator to be listed on a registry if the court removed the~~
9 ~~conservator for good cause. A conservator listed on the registry is disqualified from~~
10 ~~acting as a conservator in any conservatorship proceeding. The court shall send a~~
11 ~~copy of the order to the state court administrator, who shall maintain and administer~~
12 ~~the registry. This subsection does not apply to a licensed conservator. For purposes of~~
13 ~~this subsection, a licensed conservator includes a conservator whose license has~~
14 ~~been suspended but excludes a conservator whose license is revoked.~~

15 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 50-24.1-07 of the North Dakota
16 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 17 1. On the death of any recipient of medical assistance who was a resident of a nursing
18 facility, intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities, or other
19 medical institution and with respect to whom the department determined that resident
20 reasonably was not expected to be discharged from the medical institution and to
21 return home, or who was fifty-five years of age or older when the recipient received the
22 assistance, and on the death of the spouse of the deceased recipient, the total amount
23 of medical assistance paid on behalf of the recipient following the institutionalization of
24 the recipient who cannot reasonably be expected to be discharged from the medical
25 institution, or following the recipient's fifty-fifth birthday, as the case may be, must be
26 allowed as a preferred claim against the decedent's estate after payment, in the
27 following order, of:
- 28 a. Recipient liability expense applicable to the month of death for nursing home or
29 basic care services;
 - 30 b. Funeral expenses not in excess of three thousand five hundred dollars;
 - 31 c. Expenses of the last illness, other than those incurred by medical assistance;

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- 1 d. Expenses of administering the estate, including attorney's fees approved by the
- 2 court;
- 3 e. Claims made under chapter 50-01;
- 4 f. Claims made under chapter 50-24.5;
- 5 g. Claims made under chapter 50-06.3 and on behalf of the state hospital; ~~and~~
- 6 h. Claims made under chapter 27-27.1 section 3 of this Act; and
- 7 i. Claims made under subsection 4.

8 **SECTION 5. REPEAL.** Chapter 27-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

9 **SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - ~~JUDICIAL BRANCH~~ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND**
 10 **HUMAN SERVICES - OFFICE OF GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP.** The funds
 11 provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of
 12 any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to the ~~judicial~~
 13 ~~branch~~ department of health and human services for the purpose of defraying the expenses of
 14 the office of guardianship and conservatorship, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and
 15 ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

16	Establishment costs - indigents	\$1,550,000
17	<u>Office of guardianship and conservatorship</u>	<u>1,200,000</u>
18	Establishment costs - developmentally disabled	1,096,400
19	Public guardian and conservator fees - indigents	7,100,000
20	<u>Public guardian and conservator fees - indigents</u>	<u>9,100,000</u>
21	Guardianship contracts - developmentally disabled	<u>5,500,000</u>
22	Total general fund	\$15,246,400
23	<u>Total general fund</u>	<u>\$18,446,400</u>
24	<u>Full-time equivalent positions</u>	<u>4.0</u>