

Testimony
Senate Bill No. 2140
House Human Services Committee
Representative Matthew Ruby, Chairman
March 17, 2025

Chairman Ruby, and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Nancy Nikolas Maier, Director of the Adult and Aging Services Section with the Department of Health and Human Services (Department). This testimony is in support of Senate Bill No. 2140.

The Adult and Aging Services Section administers the Dementia Care Services Program, which began on July 1, 2010. Adult and Aging Services contracts with the Minnesota-North Dakota Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association (ND Alzheimer's Association) to provide free care consultations and support to individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias. Additionally, the ND Alzheimer's Association offers education to the public, memory care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, health care professionals, law enforcement, and in-home care providers.

In State Fiscal Year 2023, the ND Alzheimer's Association conducted an average of 631 care consultations per month and reached an average of 107 participants per month through public and professional training events.

Adult and Aging Services staff have engaged in discussions with the ND Alzheimer's Association representatives about the proposed language changes in this bill. Both parties agree that the language changes are positive and align with the current need for training and consultations.

These language updates aim to better support individuals, families, and professionals in understanding and addressing Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias effectively. There is no fiscal note attached to this bill.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to try to answer any questions the committee may have. Thank you.