

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1464**

Introduced by

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

Senators Hogan, Mathern

*In place of the amendments (25.0993.02002) adopted by the Senate, engrossed House Bill  
No. 1464 is amended by amendment (25.0993.02005) as follows:*

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-12 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to postpartum doula certification; and to provide for a legislative  
3 management report; for an Act to provide for a legislative management study relating to  
4 maternal care services.

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

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

8 ~~**Postpartum doula certification.**~~

9 ~~1. As used in this section:~~

10 ~~a. "Certified doula" means an individual who has received a certification to perform~~  
11 ~~doula services from the doulas of North America or an organization designated~~  
12 ~~by the department.~~

13 ~~b. "Department" means the department of health and human services.~~

14 ~~c. "Doula services" means education and support services for a parent and child,~~  
15 ~~including continuous emotional and physical support during the postpartum~~  
16 ~~period, including up to six months after the birth of the child.~~

17 ~~2. The department may:~~

18 ~~a. Designate additional doula certification organizations;~~

19 ~~b. Remove the designation of a doula certification organization; and~~

- 1 ~~c. Adopt rules to implement and administer this section.~~
- 2 ~~3. The department shall establish criteria for the designation of doula certification~~
- 3 ~~organizations and maintain a list of designated organizations on the department's~~
- 4 ~~website for purposes of facilitating the availability of certified doulas to provide doula~~
- 5 ~~services under section 2 of this Act.~~
- 6 ~~4. The department may not impose a licensing or certification fee in addition to any fees~~
- 7 ~~imposed by a doula certification organization meeting the criteria established by the~~
- 8 ~~department.~~

9 ~~**SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REPORT - POSTPARTUM DOULA**~~

10 ~~**CERTIFICATION.** During the 2025-26 interim, the department of health and human services~~

11 ~~shall provide a report to the legislative management regarding postpartum doula certification,~~

12 ~~including the status of implementing and administering the responsibilities relating to~~

13 ~~postpartum doula certification under section 1 of this Act and the impact of certified doula~~

14 ~~services.~~

15 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - MATERNAL CARE SERVICES.**

- 16 1. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying
- 17 maternal care services. The study must include:
- 18 a. An analysis of the availability of medical and nonmedical prenatal services in the
- 19 state by community and geographic service area, and the utilization rate of each;
- 20 b. A review of childbirth service availability, including in-home and health care
- 21 facility-based services, and the number of obstetrician-gynecologists and family
- 22 practitioners routinely delivering babies by geographic service area;
- 23 c. A review of prenatal, childbirth, and postnatal services covered by public
- 24 assistance, private insurance, and pregnancy resource centers, including an
- 25 analysis of funding, program evaluation, and outcomes;
- 26 d. Consideration of previous studies related to maternal care services;
- 27 e. Consideration of maternal care resource and asset maps, service gaps,
- 28 evidence-based or innovative pilot project solutions for resolving service gaps,
- 29 and approaches for increasing the use of prenatal and postnatal care services
- 30 and programs;



- 1 f. An evaluation of ways to increase the number of obstetrician-gynecologists and
- 2 family practitioners practicing in the state;
- 3 g. Exploration of processes for certifying, training, and reimbursing doula and
- 4 midwife services;
- 5 h. Consideration of public assistance and private insurance policy opportunities to
- 6 improve maternal and infant health outcomes; and
- 7 i. Input and consultation from key stakeholders including:
  - 8 (1) The university of North Dakota school of medicine and health sciences;
  - 9 (2) The North Dakota maternal mortality review committee;
  - 10 (3) The infant mortality review panel;
  - 11 (4) The foundation for a healthy North Dakota;
  - 12 (5) Doulas, midwives, and home-based service providers practicing in the state;
  - 13 (6) The North American college of obstetricians and gynecology;
  - 14 (7) The North Dakota medical association;
  - 15 (8) The women, infants, and children program; and
  - 16 (9) North Dakota health tracks.
- 17 2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations together
- 18 with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth
- 19 legislative assembly.

