



North Dakota House of Representatives

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3029 Senate Human Services Committee Testimony of Rep. Gretchen Dobervich, Sponsor March 19, 2025

Good Morning Chair Lee and Members of the Senate Human Services Committee. For the record my name is Representative Gretchen Dobervich and work for the people of District 11 in Fargo.

HCR 3029 is a resolution requesting Legislative Management to consider a study in the Interim regarding inpatient services, community-based services, and existing waivers for treatment and support of individuals with neurological conditions and behavioral symptoms that put the individual at risk for incarceration, inappropriate placement, or homelessness.

This study is a constituent request to focus on service availability, impacts and solutions for addressing recidivism, frequent hospitalization, and homelessness in which a contributing factor is untreated/unmanaged neurological disorders. This would include but is not limited to people with brain injuries and autism.

There have been many interim studies conducted on incarceration, mental health, and behavioral health and policies created as a result to better serve North Dakotans. It is estimated that 60% of incarcerated people have traumatic brain injuries. Is it possible to intervene sooner to reduce crime and prevent recidivism through appropriate care and supports for people with traumatic brain injury? What do we offer now and what else could we offer? What community-based services and supports are available for adults on the autism spectrum? Is it possible to break the cycle of chronic homelessness with the correct supports for people who experience this? If selected for study, HCR 3029 could answer these questions and provide solutions.

That concludes my testimony. I respectfully request a Do Pass on HCR 3029 and I stand for questions.