

2025 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2292

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations - Human Resources Division Harvest Room, State Capitol

SB 2292
2/5/2025

Relating to the reimbursement of medical screening and examination for sexual assault victims.

8:57 a.m. Chairman Dever opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Dever, Senators Cleary, Davison, Magrum, and Mathern

Discussion Topics:

- Designation of Funding Source
- General Fund
- SB 2067
- SB 2211

8:59 a.m. Jon Godfread, Insurance Commissioner, testified in favor and submitted testimony #34825.

9:06 a.m. Kristie Wolff, Communications and Engagement Coordinator, Central Dakota Forensic Nurse, testified in favor and submitted testimony #35214.

9:12 a.m. Greg Kasowski, Director of the Children's Advocacy Center of North Dakota, testified in favor and submitted testimony #35185.

9:21 a.m. Becky Keller, Finance Director, Attorney General's Office, testified neutral.

9:26 a.m. Senator Mathern moved to adopt an amendment designating the General Fund as the funding source LC 25.1153.01001 and submitted testimony #35804.

9:27 a.m. Senator Magrum seconded the motion.

9:28 a.m. Voice Vote - Motion passed.

9:28 a.m. Senator Magrum moved a Do Pass as Amended.

9:28 a.m. Senator Mathern seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Senators	Vote
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y

Senate Appropriations Human Resources Division
SB 2292
02/05/2025
Page 2

Motion passed 5-0-0.

Senator Cleary will carry the bill.

9:29 a.m. Chairman Dever closed the hearing.

Joan Bares, Committee Clerk



NORTH DAKOTA
Insurance Department

TESTIMONY

Jon Godfread, Insurance Commissioner

Senate Appropriations Committee

February 5, 2025

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2292

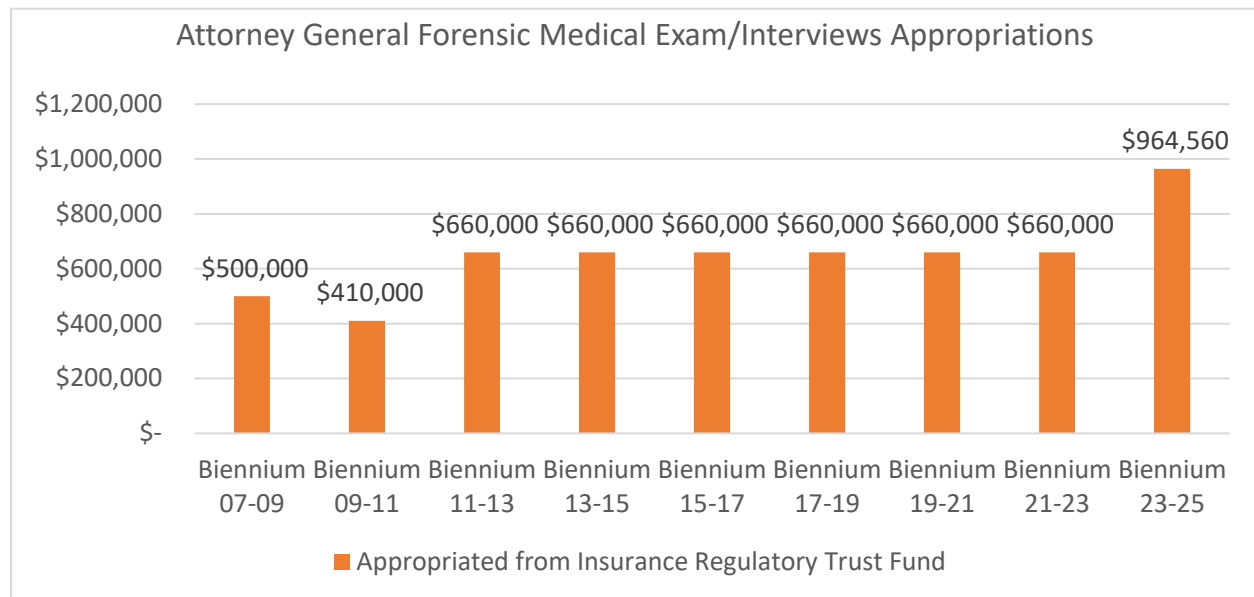
Thank you, Chairman Bekkedahl and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 2292, which seeks to specify an appropriate funding source for medical screenings and acute forensic medical examinations reimbursed through the Attorney General's Office.

History

In 2007, Senate Bill 2103 introduced appropriation language allocating \$500,000 from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to reimburse healthcare facilities and professionals for the costs of performing acute forensic medical examinations. The appropriation covered the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2009. When the bill was first introduced, funding was from the general fund, however it was amended to the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund. At that time, we believe the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund was selected due to its excess balance and the procedural requirement, if made aware the victim had insurance, at the time for medical professionals to first submit claims to insurance providers, which would often be denied due to the nature of the examination.

The Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund was established to support the administrative and regulatory operations of the Insurance Department. It is primarily funded through sums collected from insurance fees, retaliatory fees, penalties, and fines, as well as legislative appropriations, not premium tax paid by the company which was part of rational as well for the selection of the fund over the general fund back in 2007. The funds in this trust are used to cover the expenses of the Insurance Department in fulfilling its regulatory responsibilities. The trust fund was created to ensure stable financing for the department's regulatory activities.

Since 2007, it has been the responsibility of the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to support these reimbursements through the Attorney General's Office. The amounts have increased over time as depicted below.



During the 68th Legislative Session, two significant developments occurred. First, Senate Bill 2067, which eliminated the requirement for the expenses of these examinations to be submitted to insurance, was enacted. Second, Senate Bill 2211 passed, which designated the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund as the funding source for \$2.4 million per biennium for the North Dakota Firefighters Association. This legislation also resulted in the Fire Marshal's office being moved under the Insurance Department, creating cash flow deficits for the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund, particularly in the fall to spring period.

Given these changes, the question of securing a dedicated funding source for forensic medical services was raised during the 68th Legislative Session. However, due to the complexity of Senate Bill 2211 and the timing of the discussions, this issue was not fully addressed at that time.

Conclusion

Senate Bill 2292 offers a clear solution to ensure the continued availability of funding for these critical services by designating the General Fund as the dedicated and appropriate funding source and removing the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support this simplistic bill and to provide a dedicated appropriate funding source for this very important service. Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.



Senate Judiciary Committee
Testimony In Support of Senate Bill #2292
2-5-25

Chairman Dever, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee Human Resources Division, my name is Greg Kasowski, executive director of the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota. I appear today in support of Senate Bill 2292, **especially the proposed amendments** clarifying that both forensic medical examinations AND forensic interviews are moved to the general fund. The first bill draft (25.1153.01000) only relates to medical screening and acute forensic medical examinations. The proposed amendment would also include child forensic interviews.

Benefits of SB 2292

1. **Creates stability and sustainability** of funding reimbursements for the cost of evidence collection for child forensic interviews.
2. **Aligns more appropriately** with the designation of the funds, in that evidence collection is more related to General funds rather than Insurance Regulatory Trust funds.

Our Expressed Gratitude

For the record, we would like to publicly declare our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your continued commitment and support in providing this critical service to children impacted by abuse. This investment continues to make a profound difference in the lives of children and families who have experienced some of the most horrific things ever done in our state.

I will stand for any questions.

Sincerely,

Greg Kasowski
Executive Director

Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota

www.CACND.org
director@cacnd.org
701.587-1229





What Is a Children's Advocacy Center?

Children's Advocacy Centers provide critical services to families affected by child sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, and other forms of child maltreatment. Our core services include forensic interviews, mental health therapy, victim advocacy, and case coordination with our multidisciplinary team partners in law enforcement, human services, prosecution, mental health, and medical. For medical exams, we partner with several hospital-based and community-based medical agencies across the state to offer this critical service to children and families.

What Is a Forensic Interview?

A forensic interview is a specialized evidence-gathering conversation between a child and a trained forensic interviewer. The forensic interviewer asks unbiased questions that are age, developmentally and culturally appropriate. The forensic interviewer facilitates this information gathering while multidisciplinary team members (i.e., law enforcement, human services, prosecution, etc.) participate by watching the interview in a separate room through closed circuit television. The forensic interview allows multidisciplinary team members to determine if a crime of child sexual abuse, child physical abuse, or another form of child maltreatment was committed.

Background to Subsection 3 of 12.1-34-07

The attorney general, subject to legislative appropriations, shall reimburse each accredited children's advocacy center located in the state for a forensic interview that is not reimbursable by Medicaid or crime victims compensation.

Currently, our Children's Advocacy Centers go through a three-step process to request reimbursements for forensic interviews. First, if the child is eligible for Medicaid, then reimbursement is sought through Medicaid. Second, if the child is eligible for reimbursement through the Crime Victims Compensation (CVC) fund, then reimbursement is sought through the Department of Criminal Rehabilitation. If neither Medicaid nor CVC reimburses, then the Attorney General's Office reimburses.

In 2023, Senate Bill 2067 allowed child forensic interviews to be reimbursed throughout the biennium, rather than only at the end of the biennium. In the past, child forensic interviews were only reimbursed if budgeted funds remained after medical screening and acute forensic medical examinations were reimbursed.

Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota

www.CACND.org

director@cacnd.org

701.587-1229





**Kristie Wolff – Communications Coordinator
Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners**

**Support SB 2292
North Dakota Senate Human Services Committee**

February 5, 2025

Chair Dever and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee Human Resources Division, my name is Kristie Wolff, I am the Communications Coordinator for Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners (CDFNE).

CDFNE is one of the organizations who receives reimbursement funding through the \$660,000 forensic medical exams appropriation, and I am providing testimony today in support of SB 2292.

CDFNE is a North Dakota based non-profit organization providing forensic medical services to children and adult survivors of sexual violence, domestic violence, physical abuse, and neglect in western North Dakota. Our organization serves 23 counties, with our headquarters in Bismarck.

Forensic medical exams are a critical part of the healing process and provide essential evidence collection for the pursuit of justice for survivors. Both state and federal law prevent survivors of sexual violence or their insurance from being charged for a forensic medical exam. Funding forensic medical services through an appropriate source, such as the General Fund, is vital—not only for survivors but also for our state. Maintaining this funding ensures that North Dakota remains eligible for federal STOP grants, which require states to fully cover the cost of forensic medical exams for survivors of sexual violence. These grants directly support programs that improve responses to violence and empower survivors to seek justice. In 2023 alone, North Dakota received \$918,699 through these federal funds, and in 2022 North Dakota received \$846,364.

SB 2292 is important to securing the future of forensic medical services for survivors in our state and ensuring compliance with federal requirements.

Today I ask for a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2292.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions.

Kristie Wolff
kristie.cdfne@midconetwork.com
701-751-4884

25.1153.01001
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Senate Appropriations - Human
Resources Division Committee
February 5, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2292

Introduced by

Senators Lee, Hogan, Roers

Representatives Meier, Nelson, Mitskog

- 1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the reimbursement of medical screening and examination for sexual
3 assault victims.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 7 3. Upon submission of appropriate documentation, the attorney general, within the limits
8 of legislative appropriations, shall reimburse from the general fund the health care
9 facility or a health care professional for the reasonable costs incurred in performing the
10 medical screening and acute forensic medical examination ~~from the general fund~~. The
11 attorney general, subject to legislative appropriations, shall reimburse from the general
12 fund each accredited children's advocacy center located in the state for a forensic
13 interview that is not reimbursable by Medicaid or crime victims compensation.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Harvest Room, State Capitol

SB 2292
2/6/2025

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the reimbursement of medical screening and examination for sexual assault victims.

2:37 p.m. Chairman Bekkedahl opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Bekkedahl, Vice-Chairman Erbele, and Senators Burckhard, Cleary, Conley, Davison, Dever, Dwyer, Magrum, Mathern, Meyer, Schaible, Sickler, Sorvaag, Thomas, Wanzek.

Discussion Topics:

- Funding Source
- Committee Action

2:38 p.m. Senator Cleary introduced the bill, the amendment LC 25.1153.01001, and submitted testimony #36255.

2:42 p.m. Senator Cleary moved amendment LC 25.1153.01001.

2:42 p.m. Senator Burckhard seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion Passed 16-0-0.

2:43 p.m. Senator Cleary moved a Do Pass as Amended.

2:43 p.m. Senator Davison seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion Passed 16-0-0.

Senator Cleary will carry the bill.

2:44 p.m. Chairman Bekkedahl closed the hearing.

Elizabeth Reiten, Committee Clerk

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2292

Introduced by

Senators Lee, Hogan, Roers

Representatives Meier, Nelson, Mitskog

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the reimbursement of medical screening and examination for sexual
3 assault victims.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 3. Upon submission of appropriate documentation, the attorney general, within the limits
8 of legislative appropriations, shall reimburse from the general fund the health care
9 facility or a health care professional for the reasonable costs incurred in performing the
10 medical screening and acute forensic medical examination ~~from the general fund~~. The
11 attorney general, subject to legislative appropriations, shall reimburse from the general
12 fund each accredited children's advocacy center located in the state for a forensic
13 interview that is not reimbursable by Medicaid or crime victims compensation.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2292**

Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1153.01001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (16 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2292 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

25.1153.01001
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Senate Appropriations - Human
Resources Division Committee
February 5, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2292

Introduced by

Senators Lee, Hogan, Roers

Representatives Meier, Nelson, Mitskog

- 1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the reimbursement of medical screening and examination for sexual
3 assault victims.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 7 3. Upon submission of appropriate documentation, the attorney general, within the limits
8 of legislative appropriations, shall reimburse from the general fund the health care
9 facility or a health care professional for the reasonable costs incurred in performing the
10 medical screening and acute forensic medical examination ~~from the general fund~~. The
11 attorney general, subject to legislative appropriations, shall reimburse from the general
12 fund each accredited children's advocacy center located in the state for a forensic
13 interview that is not reimbursable by Medicaid or crime victims compensation.

2025 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2292

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Human Services Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2292
3/12/2025

Relating to the reimbursement of medical screening and examination for sexual assault victims.
--

10:29 a.m. Chairman M. Ruby opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman M. Ruby, Vice-Chairman Frelich, Representatives K. Anderson, Beltz, Bolinske, Davis, Dobervich, Fegley, Hendrix, Holle, Kiefert, Rios, Rohr

Discussion Topics:

- Insurance
- Stable financing
- Continued availability to funding

10:29 a.m. Rachel Kriege, Administrative Division Director of the North Dakota Insurance Department, testified in favor and submitted testimony, #40659.

10:33 a.m. Greg Kasowski, Executive Director of the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota, testified in favor and submitted testimony, #40904.

10:37 a.m. Representative K. Anderson moved a Do Pass and rerefer to appropriations.

10:37 a.m. Representative Dobervich seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Matthew Ruby	Y
Representative Kathy Frelich	Y
Representative Karen Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Beltz	Y
Representative Macy Bolinske	Y
Representative Jayme Davis	Y
Representative Gretchen Dobervich	Y
Representative Cleyton Fegley	Y
Representative Jared Hendrix	Y
Representative Dawson Holle	Y
Representative Dwight Kiefert	Y
Representative Nico Rios	Y
Representative Karen Rohr	Y

10:39 a.m. Motion passed 13-0-0.

Representative Fegley will carry the bill.

Additional written testimony:

Kristie Wolff, Communications Coordinator of the Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners, and submitted testimony in favor, #40912.

10:39 a.m. Chairman Ruby closed the meeting.

Jackson Toman, Committee Clerk

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2292 ([25.1153.02000](#))**

Human Services Committee (Rep. M. Ruby, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2292 was rereferred to the **Appropriations Committee**.



TESTIMONY

Rachel Kriege, Administrative Division Director

House Human Services Committee

March 12, 2025

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2292

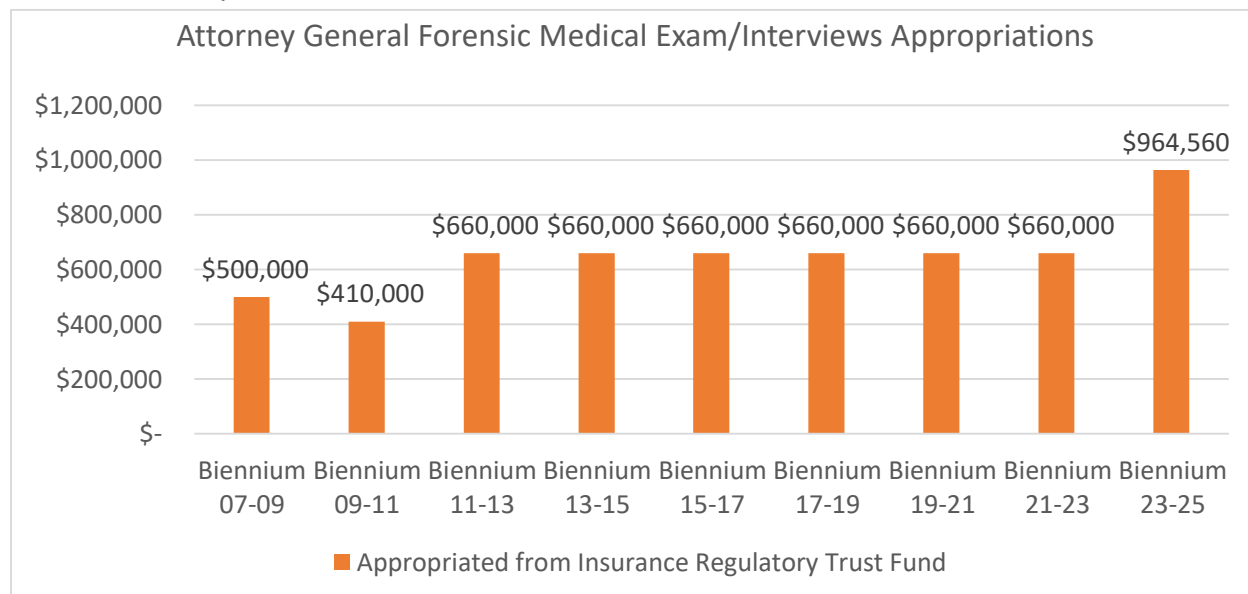
Thank you, Chairman Ruby and Members of the Human Services Committee, for the record, I am Rachel Kriege and I serve as the Administrative Division Director for the Insurance Department. I am happy to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 2292, which seeks to specify an appropriate funding source for the forensic medical exams and children's forensic interviews reimbursed through the Attorney General's Office.

History

In 2007, Senate Bill 2103 introduced appropriation language allocating \$500,000 from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to reimburse healthcare facilities and professionals for the costs of performing acute forensic medical examinations. The appropriation covered the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2009. When the bill was first introduced, funding was from the general fund, however it was amended to the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund. At that time, we believe the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund was selected due to its excess balance and the procedural requirement, if made aware the victim had insurance, at the time for medical professionals to first submit claims to insurance providers, which would often be denied due to the nature of the examination, or at least that was assumption.

The Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund was established to support the administrative and regulatory operations of the Insurance Department. It is primarily funded through sums collected from insurance fees, retaliatory fees, penalties, and fines, as well as legislative appropriations, not premium tax paid by the company which was part of rational as well for the selection of the fund over the general fund back in 2007. The funds in this trust are used to cover the expenses of the Insurance Department in fulfilling its regulatory responsibilities. The trust fund was created to ensure stable financing for the department's regulatory activities.

Since 2007, it has been the responsibility of the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to support these reimbursements through the Attorney General's Office. The amounts have increased over time as depicted below.



During the 68th Legislative Session, two significant developments occurred. First, Senate Bill 2067, which eliminated the requirement for the expenses of forensic interviews to be submitted to insurance, was enacted. Second, Senate Bill 2211 passed, which designated the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund as the funding source for \$2.4 million per biennium for the North Dakota Firefighters Association. This legislation also resulted in the Fire Marshal's office being moved under the Insurance Department, creating cash flow deficits for the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund, particularly in the fall to spring period.

Given these changes, the question of securing a dedicated funding for these services was raised during the 68th Legislative Session. However, due to the complexity of Senate Bill 2211 and the timing of the discussions, this issue was not fully addressed at that time.

Conclusion

Senate Bill 2292 offers a clear solution to ensure the continued availability of funding for these critical services by designating the General Fund as the dedicated and appropriate funding source and removing the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support this simplistic bill and to provide a dedicated appropriate funding source for this very important service. Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.



House Human Services Committee
Testimony In Support of Senate Bill #2292
3-12-25

Chairman Ruby, members of the House Human Services Committee, my name is Greg Kasowski, executive director of the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota. I appear today in support of Senate Bill 2292.

Benefits of SB 2292

1. **Creates stability** of funding reimbursements for the cost of evidence collection for child forensic interviews.
2. **Aligns more appropriately** with the designation of the funds, in that evidence collection is more related to General funds rather than Insurance Regulatory Trust funds.

Our Expressed Gratitude

We would like to publicly declare our gratitude and appreciation for legislators' continued commitment and support for us to provide this critical service to children impacted by abuse. This investment continues to make a profound difference in the lives of children and families who have experienced some of the most horrific things ever done in our state.

I will stand for any questions.

Sincerely,

Greg Kasowski
Executive Director

Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota

www.CACND.org
director@cacnd.org
701.587-1229





What Is a Children's Advocacy Center?

Children's Advocacy Centers provide critical services to families affected by child sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, and other forms of child maltreatment. Our core services include forensic interviews, mental health therapy, victim advocacy, and case coordination with our multidisciplinary team partners in law enforcement, human services, prosecution, mental health, and medical. For medical exams, we partner with several hospital-based and community-based medical agencies across the state to offer this critical service to children and families.

What Is a Forensic Interview?

A forensic interview is a specialized evidence-gathering conversation between a child and a trained forensic interviewer. The forensic interviewer asks unbiased questions that are age, developmentally and culturally appropriate. The forensic interviewer facilitates this information gathering while multidisciplinary team members (i.e., law enforcement, human services, prosecution, etc.) participate by watching the interview in a separate room through closed circuit television. The forensic interview allows multidisciplinary team members to determine if a crime of child sexual abuse, child physical abuse, or another form of child maltreatment was committed.

Background to Subsection 3 of 12.1-34-07

The attorney general, subject to legislative appropriations, shall reimburse each accredited children's advocacy center located in the state for a forensic interview that is not reimbursable by Medicaid or crime victims compensation.

Currently, our Children's Advocacy Centers go through a three-step process to request reimbursements for forensic interviews. First, if the child is eligible for Medicaid, then reimbursement is sought through Medicaid. Second, if the child is eligible for reimbursement through the Crime Victims Compensation (CVC) fund, then reimbursement is sought through the Department of Criminal Rehabilitation. If neither Medicaid nor CVC reimburses, then the Attorney General's Office reimburses.

In 2023, Senate Bill 2067 made a change that allowed child forensic interviews to be reimbursed throughout the biennium, rather than only at the end of the biennium. Previously, child forensic interviews were only reimbursed if budgeted funds remained after medical screening and acute forensic medical examinations were reimbursed.

Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota

www.CACND.org

director@cacnd.org

701.587-1229





**Kristie Wolff – Communications Coordinator
Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners**

**Support SB 2292
North Dakota Senate Human Services Committee**

March 12, 2025

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Human Services Committee, my name is Kristie Wolff, I am the Communications Coordinator for Central Dakota Forensic Nurse Examiners (CDFNE).

CDFNE is one of the organizations who receives reimbursement funding through the \$660,000 forensic medical exams appropriation, and I am providing testimony today in support of SB 2292.

CDFNE is a North Dakota based non-profit organization providing forensic medical services to children and adult survivors of sexual violence, domestic violence, physical abuse, and neglect in western North Dakota. Our organization serves 23 counties, with our headquarters in Bismarck.

Forensic medical exams are a critical part of the healing process and provide essential evidence collection for the pursuit of justice for survivors. Both state and federal law prevent survivors of sexual violence or their insurance from being charged for a forensic medical exam. Funding forensic medical services through an appropriate source, such as the General Fund, is vital—not only for survivors but also for our state. Maintaining this funding ensures that North Dakota remains eligible for federal STOP grants, which require states to fully cover the cost of forensic medical exams for survivors of sexual violence. These grants directly support programs that improve responses to violence and empower survivors to seek justice. In 2023 alone, North Dakota received \$918,699 through these federal funds, and in 2022 North Dakota received \$846,364.

SB 2292 is important to securing the future of forensic medical services for survivors in our state and ensuring compliance with federal requirements.

Today I ask for a DO PASS recommendation on SB 2292.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to answer any questions.

Kristie Wolff
kristie.cdfne@midconetwork.com
701-751-4884

2025 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2292

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2292
3/20/2025

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the reimbursement of medical screening and examination for sexual assault victims.

10:37 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Vigesaa, Vice Chairman Kempenich, Representatives Anderson, Berg, Bosch, Brandenburg, Fisher, Hanson, Louser, Martinson, Meier, Murphy, Nathe, Nelson, O'Brien, Richter, Sanford, Stemen, Swiontek, Wagner

Members absent: Representatives: Mitskog, Monson, Pyle

Discussion Topics:

- Committee Action

10:37 a.m. Representative M. Ruby introduced the bill and answered questions.

10:42 a.m. John Arnold, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, ND Insurance Department answered questions.

10:46 a.m. Representative Kempenich moved Do Pass.

10:46 a.m. Representative O'Brien seconded the motion.

10:47 a.m. Becky Keller, Finance Director, Attorney General, answered questions.

Roll Call Vote

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Mike Berg	Y
Representative Glenn Bosch	Y
Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Representative Jay Fisher	Y
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Scott Louser	Y
Representative Bob Martinson	Y
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	AB
Representative David Monson	AB
Representative Eric J. Murphy	Y

Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y
Representative Emily O'Brien	Y
Representative Brandy L. Pyle	AB
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	Y
Representative Gregory Stemen	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	Y
Representative Scott Wagner	Y

Motion passed 20-0-3.

10:48 a.m. Representative Fegley will carry.

10:48 a.m. Chairman Vigesaa adjourned the meeting.

Krystal Eberle, Committee Clerk

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2292 ([25.1153.02000](#))**

Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (20 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2292 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.