

Sixty-third
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1424

Introduced by

Representatives Boehning, Grande, Gruchalla, Guggisberg, S. Kelsh, Paur, Thoreson,
Wieland

Senators Flakoll, Grindberg, Mathern

1 A BILL for an Act to provide ~~an appropriation to the department of veterans' affairs for veterans'~~
2 ~~programs; and to provide for a report to the legislative management~~for a legislative
3 management study of the feasibility and desirability of participating in the provision of
4 nontraditional healing therapies for posttraumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, and other
5 neurological conditions for North Dakota veterans and their families.

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

7 ~~— **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general~~
8 ~~fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,490,000, or so much of the~~
9 ~~sum as may be necessary, to the department of veterans' affairs for the purpose of conducting a~~
10 ~~veterans' needs assessment and providing healing, therapy, and outreach services to North~~
11 ~~Dakota veterans, military personnel, their families, and other North Dakota residents suffering~~
12 ~~from posttraumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and other neurologic disorders, for the~~
13 ~~biennium beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015, as follows:~~

14 ~~— Therapies and healing services ————— \$900,000~~

15 ~~— North Dakota specific needs assessment ————— \$50,000~~

16 ~~— Regional outreach services ————— \$240,000~~

17 ~~— Leased capital costs ————— \$300,000~~

18 ~~Any contract entered or grant awarded by the department of veterans' affairs under this section~~
19 ~~must include provisions allowing oversight and monitoring and accountability measures and~~
20 ~~outcome reporting regarding the use of the funds.~~

21 ~~— **SECTION 2. SERVICES AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT – REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**~~

22 ~~**MANAGEMENT.** The department of veterans' affairs shall report quarterly to the legislative~~

1 ~~management regarding the status of the needs assessment and programs and services~~
2 ~~provided, including related accountability measures and outcomes, under section 1 of this Act.~~

3 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - NONTRADITIONAL THERAPIES**
4 **FOR POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS, TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY, AND OTHER**

5 **NEUROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.** During the 2013-14 interim, the legislative management shall
6 consider studying the feasibility and desirability of participating in the provision of nontraditional
7 healing therapies, including massage, healing touch, reflexology, stress management, yoga,
8 and hyperbaric chamber treatments, for North Dakota veterans, military personnel, and their
9 families. If conducted, the study must also gather information regarding the needs of women
10 veterans. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
11 with any legislation to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fourth legislative assembly.