

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Senate Amendments
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1416**

Introduced by

Representatives Kiefert, K. Anderson, Rohr, M. Ruby, Tveit, Vigesaa, Weisz

Senators Conley, Wobbema

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 26.1-36-12.7 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to freedom of choice for health care services; and to provide for application.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** Section 26.1-36-12.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
5 enacted as follows:

6 **26.1-36-12.7. Freedom of choice for health care services.**

7 1. As used in this section:

8 a. "Health benefit plan" has the same meaning as provided in section 26.1-36.3-01.

9 b. "Health care provider" includes an individual licensed under chapters 43-05,
10 43-06, 43-12.1 as a registered nurse or as an advanced practice registered
11 nurse, 43-13, 43-15, 43-17, 43-26.1, 43-28, 43-32, 43-37, 43-40, 43-41, 43-42,
12 43-44, 43-45, 43-47, 43-58, or 43-60.

13 c. "Integrated delivery network" means a system of health care providers and
14 facilities which offer both health care services and health benefit plans.

15 2. A health insurer, including the Medicaid program, which is part of an integrated
16 delivery network may not obstruct patient choice by excluding a health care provider
17 licensed under the laws of this state from participating on the health insurer's panel of
18 providers if the provider is located within the geographic coverage area of the health
19 benefit plan and is willing and fully qualified to meet the terms and conditions of
20 participation, as established by the health insurer.

21 **SECTION 2. APPLICATION.** This Act applies to health benefit plans offered or sold on or
22 after December 31, 2024.