

Testimony
Health Services Committee
3:45 p.m., Wednesday, July 27, 2016
North Dakota Department of Health

Good afternoon, Chairman Lee and members of the Health Services Committee. My name is Neil Charvat and I am the Director of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program for the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH). I am here today to provide testimony regarding the grant provided by the North Dakota Tobacco Prevention and Control Executive Committee to the NDDoH.

In March 2015, NDDoH was notified that the funding provided to NDDoH for tobacco prevention and control activities by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was being reduced by approximately \$500,000 for the 2015-2017 biennium. Because of the reduction in funds from the CDC to NDDoH, the Legislature appropriated an additional \$500,000 to the North Dakota Tobacco Prevention and Control Executive Committee through the North Dakota Center for Tobacco Prevention and Control Policy (Center). The additional \$500,000 appropriated to the Center was required to be given to the NDDoH to offset the reduction in funds from the CDC. Section 2 of House Bill 1024 requires that the state department of health report to legislative management by September 1, 2016 regarding grant expenditures, the granting process and reporting requirements for the funding provided.

Grant Expenditures: NDDoH spent the entire \$500,000 grant provided by the Center by June 2016.

Granting Process: NDDoH used the funds to support advertising for NDQuits, the state's phone and web-based quit services, because promotion of NDQuits is included in both NDDoH and the Center's work plan activities. The Center provided a media plan that would meet its requirements for following CDC Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs. NDDoH worked through a contract with Odney Advertising to implement the media plan developed by the Center.

Reporting Requirements: NDDoH provided a quarterly summary of grant activities as well as requests for reimbursement to the Center's Health Communications Manager in a format agreed upon by both agencies. Request for reimbursements were submitted on April 15, 2016 and July 15, 2016.

The grant provided to NDDoH by the Center has been fully executed as agreed upon in the contract, and all expenditures have been submitted for reimbursement. This project is now complete. This concludes my testimony. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.