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Salosta Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

2003 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

HCR 3056

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Yolanda Richardson
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3056

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 26, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2		X	16.1 - 25.4
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Sharon Renshaw</i>			

Minutes:

Rep. Boucher appeared as prime sponsor of the bill stating his concerns of rising costs of liability and malpractice insurance for our facilities. It appears that North Dakota providers are actually paying the price of what is going on throughout the rest of the nation. In other words, premiums are based upon activities that happened in the various industries and they are being passed on to our North Dakota facilities. What we are looking at here is the possibility of expanding, or studying the possibility of expanding the operations of this particular insurance source to include non-profits in the medical provider long term care community and so forth. I think we are finding out that the service providers that we are talking about, long term facilities, basic care facilities, our hospitals across the State of North Dakota are struggling to survive financial and I think that anything that we can do to alleviate some of their financial costs and make that fiscal environment for their operation better, is worthy of our study and our consideration.

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3056
Hearing Date February 26, 2003

Sen. Mathern appeared as cosponsor stating he would make 2 points in follow-up to Rep.

Boucher's comments. One is that I found it interesting that during the President's State of the Union message to Congress he had somebody from Fargo there and the reason for that was to highlight the problems in terms of medical providers receiving adequate liability insurance.

That's an indicator there are some issues going on, but the primary reason I decided to cosponsor this bill was, I believe our medical providers who used Medicaid may come due in terms of form of reimbursement are essentially offering that service pretty close to cost or many times below cost. We need those providers in our State to offer that program to our citizens and maybe offering them the possibility of some sort of insurance product within our ND Insurance Reserve Fund is a way of supporting their work too as they support our work in the Medicaid Program. I understand that its a complicated area, its an area of considerable dollar risk that's a little bit different than some of our other risks and so I think a study is important and a study would give us the data that is necessary to see if such an option is workable.

Steve Spilde, CEO of the North Dakota Insurance Fund appeared neutral on the bill stating the reason he's here is they are willing and able to provide information, be a resource and participate in discussion should the resolution pass and be selected for an interim study. I don't believe we would be interested or our members would be interested in simply stepping up and bringing in private parties for medical liability coverage, that doesn't mean that there may not be a number other ways that could be looked at in terms of addressing these issues.

Rep. Price: What would be your feelings about as it pertains from the long term care facilities as opposed to providers and medical malpractice?

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3056
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Answer: concerns with writing private parties, private entities is that we don't believe that our members would want to put at risk the funds that you've spent now 17 years building up, provide solid stable coverage for their liability risk. As far as the medical liability with the long term care by itself, certainly there are methods under which coverage could be provided for under business plans than what we are currently operating and so we would certainly be interested in discussing various other methods by which we might participate in that kind of coverage or in which other entities may do so as well.

Closed hearing.

Rep. Price: Question on child birth services and realize that that's a number of the services are being diminished throughout the State but many times its because of efficiency, because they only have 2-3 births in a hospital for a whole year. They choose not to because they don't believe they are going to maintain enough efficiency. They don't do enough to stay in business for that reason.

Rep. Wieland: Concerns with North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund, when the study is done, will other options be considered.

Rep. Porter: Technically they couldn't handle the medical facilities under their tax status that they are right now per Mr. Spilde. He said it would be more of a study topic and more of a separate fund that would be managed by the management of the Insurance Reserve Fund. He didn't think because of the IRS rules that they would be allowed to be included in the same pool of money that's currently used for political subdivisions because of the different tax status's that would be out there.

Rep. Price: I think we need to amend it to look at other pools.

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3056
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Concerns of the committee regarding possibly looking at another entity and look at it as a small community seeing it as being intrusive.

Rep. Porter: motioned to adopt an amendment on line 23, after the word in, strike the language and insert an insurance reserve fund managed by and after Fund insert or other like entity, second by Rep. Wieland. 13 - 0 - 1 Amendment Passed.

Rep. Kreidt moved a DO PASS as Amended and placed on the Consent Calendar, second by Rep. Pollert. 13 - 0 - 0 Rep. Devlin will carry the bill

33094.0101
Title.0200

Adopted by the Human Services Committee
February 26, 2003

VR
2/27/03

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3056 HS 2-27-03

Page 1, line 5, after "in" insert "an insurance fund managed by" and after "Fund" insert "or other like entity"

Page 1, line 23, after "in" insert "an insurance reserve fund managed by" and after "Fund" insert "or other like entity"

Renumber accordingly

Page No. 1

33094.0101

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Yolanda Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

26
Date: February , 2003
Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3056**

House HUMAN SERVICES Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken DP as Amended on Consent

Motion Made By Rep Seconded By Rep

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. Clara Sue Price - Chair	✓		Rep. Sally Sandvig	✓	
Rep. Bill Devlin, Vice-Chair	✓		Rep. Bill Amerman	✓	
Rep. Robin Weisz	✓		Rep. Carol Niemeier	✓	
Rep. Vonnie Pietsch	✓		Rep. Louise Potter	✓	
Rep. Gerald Uglem	✓				
Rep. Chet Pollert	✓				
Rep. Todd Porter	✓				
Rep. Gary Kreidt	✓				
Rep. Alon Wieland	✓				

Total (Yes) 13 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Devlin

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 27, 2003 3:11 p.m.

Module No: HR-35-3627
Carrier: Devlin
Insert LC: 33094.0101 Title: .0200

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3056: Human Services Committee (Rep. Price, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3056 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 5, after "In" insert "an insurance fund managed by" and after "Fund" insert "or other like entity"

Page 1, line 23, after "In" insert "an insurance reserve fund managed by" and after "Fund" insert "or other like entity"

Renumber accordingly

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-35-3627

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La Costa Richard
Operator's Signature

10/6/03
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2003 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES
HCR 3056

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