

Introduced by

Senators Warner, Andrist, J. Lee

Representatives L. Meier, Rust

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-01 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to an eating disorder training program; and to provide for a report to the  
3 legislative management regarding eating disorders.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 23-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Eating disorder training program.**

8 The state department of health shall establish a training program to assist in early  
9 recognition and intervention of eating disorders. The program must be consistent with standards  
10 and practices of one or more nationally recognized organizations dealing with mental health and  
11 eating disorders. The department shall provide training program access information in the  
12 department's regular communication with professionals who will benefit from this training,  
13 including physicians, physician assistants, nurses, dentists, dental hygienists, psychiatrists,  
14 psychologists, social workers, and counselors and with schools that train these professionals.

15 **SECTION 2. NORTH DAKOTA MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL STUDY OF**  
16 **EATING DISORDERS - REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.** During the 2011-12  
17 biennium, the department of human services' North Dakota mental health planning council shall  
18 study the issue of eating disorders in the state. This study must include collection of data  
19 regarding the number of incidents of diagnosed eating disorders in the state; an assessment of  
20 the adequacy of eating disorder training provided to public school educators; an evaluation of  
21 the adequacy of the curriculum relating to eating disorders in the state's medical and nursing  
22 education programs as well as in the continuing education requirements for health care  
23 providers; a determination of strategies by which the state can increase awareness of eating  
24 disorders, including symptoms, effects, and preventive interventions; an assessment of the cost

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1 of treatment incurred by eating disorder patients which is borne by the state's medical  
2 assistance program as well as by private health plans and employers; an assessment of issues  
3 concerning access to care within the state for individuals with eating disorders;  
4 recommendations for strategies to improve education regarding prevention of, early detection  
5 of, and treatment of eating disorders and an estimate of the fiscal impact on the state and  
6 private payers for the implementation of such strategies; and consideration of how the  
7 department of human services' North Dakota mental health planning council and other state  
8 entities may identify other issues related to the objectives of this study. The North Dakota  
9 mental health planning council shall make its report of this study and any related  
10 recommendations to the legislative management before August 1, 2012.