

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of human services for improving
2 mental health services; and to provide for a report.

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

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - REPORT TO**
5 **THE LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
6 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$750,000, or so much of the
7 sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of establishing
8 and administering a voucher system to address underserved areas and gaps in the state's
9 unified mental health delivery system, pursuant to section 50-06-01.7, and to assist in the
10 payment of mental health services provided by private mental health providers, for the biennium
11 beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. Services eligible for the voucher program
12 include only those levels of care for mental disorders recognized by the "Diagnostic and
13 Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders", American psychiatric association, fifth edition, text
14 revision (2017) with particular emphasis given to underserved areas and programs. The
15 department of human services shall ensure that a private provider accepting vouchers under
16 this Act collects and reports process and outcome measures. The department of human
17 services shall develop requirements and provide training and technical assistance to a private
18 provider accepting vouchers under this Act. A private mental health provider accepting vouchers
19 under this Act shall provide evidence-based services. Before July 1, 2020, the department of
20 human services shall provide a report to the legislative management regarding the rules
21 adopted to establish and administer the voucher system to assist in the payment of mental
22 health services provided by private mental health providers.