

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Human Services Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to peer support specialist certification; and to provide an appropriation.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Peer support specialist certification.**

7 The behavioral health division shall establish and implement a program for the certification  
8 of peer support specialists. In developing the program, the division shall:

9 1. Define a peer support specialist;

10 2. Establish eligibility requirements for certification;

11 3. Establish application procedures and standards for the approval or disapproval of  
12 applications for certification;

13 4. Enter reciprocity agreements with other states as deemed appropriate to certify  
14 nonresident applicants registered under the laws of other states having requirements  
15 for peer support specialists; and

16 5. Establish continuing education and certification renewal requirements.

17 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general  
18 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$275,000, or so much of the  
19 sum as may be necessary, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income,  
20 the sum of \$275,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human  
21 services for the purpose of establishing and implementing a peer support specialist certification  
22 program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. The department  
23 of human services is authorized one full-time equivalent position for this purpose.