

Introduced by

Senators Dever, Heckaman

Representatives Heinert, Keiser, Meier, J. Nelson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-07 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to establishing a commission on children's health and well-being; to
3 provide a report to the legislative management; and to provide an expiration date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Commission on children's health and well-being - Reports.**

8 1. The commission on children's health and well-being is composed of:

- 9 a. Three members of the house of representatives, two of whom must be selected
10 by the majority leader of the house of representatives and one of whom must be
11 selected by the minority leader of the house of representatives;
12 b. Three members of the senate, two of whom must be selected by the majority
13 leader of the senate and one of whom must be selected by the minority leader of
14 the senate;
15 c. The governor or the governor's designee;
16 d. The superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee;
17 e. The executive director of the department of human services or the executive
18 director's designee;
19 f. The director of the department of corrections and rehabilitation's division of
20 juvenile services or the director's designee;
21 g. The executive director of the Indian affairs commission or the executive director's
22 designee;
23 h. The state health officer or the state health officer's designee;

- 1 i. A director of juvenile court services appointed by the chief justice of the supreme
2 court;
- 3 j. A state's attorney appointed by the governor;
- 4 k. A representative of a children's advocacy center appointed by the governor;
- 5 l. A representative of a city police department appointed by the governor; and
- 6 m. A representative of a residential child care facility appointed by the governor.
- 7 2. The governor shall designate one of the members of the commission to serve as the
8 presiding officer. The governor's appointees serve at the pleasure of the governor.
9 Excluding ex officio members, the term of a commission member is two years.
- 10 3. The commission shall meet at least four times per year at the times and locations
11 designated by the presiding officer. The office of the governor shall provide staffing for
12 the commission.
- 13 4. The commission shall:
 - 14 a. Gather information concerning issues of children's welfare, including education,
15 abuse, and neglect;
 - 16 b. Receive reports and testimony from individuals, state and local agencies,
17 community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations, in
18 furtherance of the commission's duties;
 - 19 c. Promote effective intervention, resources, and services for children;
 - 20 d. Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of state services and resources for
21 children's well-being;
 - 22 e. Annually submit to the governor and the legislative management a report with the
23 commission's findings and recommendations which may include a legislative
24 strategy to implement the recommendations.
- 25 6. A member of the commission who is not a state employee is entitled to reimbursement
26 for mileage and expenses as provided by law for state officers and employees to be
27 paid by the governor. A state employee who is a member of the commission is entitled
28 to receive that employee's regular salary and is entitled to reimbursement for mileage
29 and expenses to be paid by the employing agency. A member of the commission who
30 is a member of the legislative assembly is entitled to received per diem compensation
31 at the rate provided under section 54-35-10 for each day performing official duties of

1 the commission. The legislative council shall pay the per diem, compensation, and
2 reimbursement for the travel and expenses as provided by law for any member of the
3 commission who is a member of the legislative assembly.

4 **SECTION 2. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through July 31, 2027, and after that
5 date is ineffective.