

Sixty-sixth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

REENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1359

Introduced by

Representatives D. Anderson, Mock, Schauer, Schneider

Senators Burckhard, Kreun, Robinson

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to provide for a hyperbaric oxygen therapy pilot program; to provide an~~  
2 ~~appropriation; and to provide for a report to the legislative management.~~for an Act to provide for  
3 a study of the efficacy of hyperbaric oxygen therapy; and to provide an appropriation.

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

5 ~~SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION -- HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY PILOT PROGRAM --~~  
6 ~~REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.~~

7 ~~1.~~ There is appropriated out of any moneys in the tobacco prevention and control trust  
8 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$335,000, or so  
9 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state department of health for the  
10 purpose of contracting with a third party to implement a hyperbaric oxygen therapy  
11 pilot program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021.

12 ~~2.~~ The department shall contract with a local nonprofit entity with experience  
13 implementing studies using hyperbaric oxygen for traumatic brain injuries to conduct a  
14 pilot program for treatment of moderate to severely brain-injured North Dakotans using  
15 an established protocol of hyperbaric oxygen therapy provided by a private entity with  
16 experience in treating traumatic brain injury using medical-grade hyperbaric chambers  
17 pressurized with one hundred percent oxygen. The goals of the study include  
18 demonstrating improvement in brain-eye function using RightEye, significant  
19 improvement in quality of life of injured patients, significant improvement in cognitive  
20 abilities of injured patients, and financial savings and increased revenues for the state,  
21 including possible savings for medical assistance and workers' compensation and a  
22 positive impact on income tax revenues. The pilot program design must be established  
23 in consultation with a third-party physician.

1 ~~3. During the 2019-21 biennium, the department shall make periodic reports to the~~  
2 ~~legislative management on the status of the pilot program and whether the goals are~~  
3 ~~being realized.~~

4 **SECTION 1. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH**  
5 **SCIENCES STUDY - HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY.** During the 2019-21 biennium, the  
6 university of North Dakota school of medicine and health sciences may design and implement a  
7 study of the efficacy of hyperbaric oxygen therapy in treating brain injuries.

8 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general  
9 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so much of the  
10 sum as may be necessary, to the university of North Dakota school of medicine and health  
11 sciences for the purpose of a study of hyperbaric oxygen therapy, for the biennium beginning  
12 July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. The funds appropriated in this section may be spent  
13 only to the extent the university of North Dakota school of medicine and health sciences  
14 receives two dollars of matching funds from nonstate sources for each one dollar provided from  
15 the general fund.