

Introduced by

Human Services Committee

(At the request of the Department of Human Services)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-10.2 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to authorized electronic monitoring of facility residents; to amend and
3 reenact sections 12.1-31-14 and 50-10.2-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to
4 authorized electronic monitoring of facility residents and privacy; and to provide a penalty.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 12.1-31-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **12.1-31-14. Surreptitious intrusion or interference with privacy.**

- 9 1. An individual is guilty of a class B misdemeanor if, with intent to intrude upon or
10 interfere with the privacy of another, the individual:
- 11 a. Enters upon another's property and surreptitiously gazes, stares, or peeps into a
12 house or place of dwelling of another; or
- 13 b. Enters upon another's property and surreptitiously installs or uses any device for
14 observing, photographing, recording, amplifying, or broadcasting sounds or
15 events from a house or place of dwelling of another.
- 16 2. An individual is guilty of a class B misdemeanor if, with intent to intrude upon or
17 interfere with the privacy of an occupant, the individual:
- 18 a. Surreptitiously gazes, stares, or peeps into a tanning booth, a sleeping room in a
19 hotel, or other place where a reasonable individual would have an expectation of
20 privacy; or
- 21 b. Surreptitiously installs or uses any device for observing, photographing,
22 recording, amplifying, or broadcasting sounds or events from a tanning booth, a
23 sleeping room in a hotel, or other place where a reasonable individual would
24 have an expectation of privacy.

1 3. In a prosecution under this section, it is an affirmative defense that an individual was
2 acting pursuant to section 3 of this Act.

3 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 50-10.2-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **50-10.2-01. Definitions.**

6 In this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

- 7 1. "Authorized electronic monitoring" means the placement and use of an authorized
8 electronic monitoring device, by a resident or resident representative, in the resident's
9 room.
- 10 2. "Authorized electronic monitoring device" means video surveillance cameras,
11 monitoring devices, web-based cameras, video phones, or audio recording or
12 transmitting devices, or a combination of these devices, installed in the room of a
13 resident which are designed to acquire, transmit, broadcast, interact, or record video,
14 communications, or other sounds occurring in the room. The term does not include still
15 cameras or devices used for the purpose of the resident having contact with another
16 person.
- 17 3. "Conflict of interest" means any type of ownership in a facility or membership on the
18 governing body of a facility by a provider of goods or services to that facility or by a
19 member of that ~~person's~~individual's immediate family.
- 20 ~~2.4.~~ "Department" means the department of human services.
- 21 ~~3.5.~~ "Facility" means a skilled nursing care facility, basic care facility, assisted living facility,
22 or swing-bed hospital approved to furnish long-term care services.
- 23 ~~4.6.~~ "Immediate family" means husband, wife, father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter,
24 father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law,
25 stepchild, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, or grandchild.
- 26 ~~5.7.~~ "Remodeling" means any alteration in structure, refurbishing, or repair that would:
27 a. Prevent the facility staff from providing customary and required care; or
28 b. Seriously endanger or inconvenience any resident with noise, dust, fumes,
29 inoperative equipment, or the presence of remodeling workers.
- 30 ~~6.8.~~ "Resident" means a ~~person~~an individual residing in a facility.

1 9. "Resident representative" means a person authorized to act as a resident's agent
2 under power of attorney for health care or guardianship.

3 **SECTION 3.** A new section to chapter 50-10.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
4 and enacted as follows:

5 **Authorized electronic monitoring - Penalty.**

6 1. A facility shall permit a resident or the resident representative to conduct authorized
7 electronic monitoring of the resident's room through an authorized electronic
8 monitoring device if:

9 a. The authorized electronic monitoring device is placed in the resident's room;

10 b. The placement of the electronic monitoring device is focused only on the area
11 occupied by the resident and not on the area occupied by the resident's
12 roommate;

13 c. The facility is given notice of the placement and use;

14 d. A tape or recording created using an authorized electronic monitoring device
15 records the date and time;

16 e. All costs, except for electricity, associated with the authorized electronic
17 monitoring device, including installation, operation, removal, repairs, room
18 damage, and maintenance, are paid by the resident or resident representative
19 who initiated the use of the authorized electronic monitoring device;

20 f. Written consent is given by each resident occupying the same room, or by that
21 resident's resident representative in accordance with subsection 3; and

22 g. The notice to the facility of a resident's or resident representative's intent to place
23 and use authorized electronic monitoring, as well as the consent of any resident,
24 or that resident's resident representative, occupying the same room must include
25 a release of liability for the facility for a violation of the resident's right to privacy
26 to the extent the use of the authorized electronic monitoring device is concerned.

27 2. The facility shall cooperate to accommodate the placement of the authorized
28 electronic monitoring device, unless doing so would place undue burden on the facility.

29 3. Before placing and using the authorized electronic monitoring device, a resident or
30 resident representative shall obtain the written consent of any other resident residing
31 in the room. The consent may be given by that resident's resident representative.

- 1 a. The resident's or the resident representative's consent may limit the use of an
2 authorized electronic monitoring device, including the time of operation, direction,
3 focus, and use of visual or audio recording or transmission.
- 4 b. At any time, a resident or resident representative may request the authorized
5 electronic monitoring device be turned off or the visual or audio recording or
6 transmitting component of the authorized electronic monitoring device be
7 blocked.
- 8 4. If a resident or resident representative withdraws consent, the resident or resident
9 representative who initiated the use of the authorized electronic monitoring device
10 shall disable the authorized electronic monitoring device until accommodations can be
11 made.
- 12 5. The facility shall make a reasonable attempt to accommodate a resident if a resident
13 or resident representative of a resident who is residing in a shared room wants to have
14 an authorized electronic monitoring device placed in the room and another resident
15 living in the same shared room refuses to consent to the use of the authorized
16 electronic monitoring device. A reasonable attempt to accommodate includes the
17 facility offering to move either resident to another shared room that is available at the
18 time of the request. The facility shall continue to review options of roommates and
19 room sharing until the request can be fulfilled.
- 20 6. If authorized electronic monitoring is being conducted in the room of a resident, the
21 facility shall make a reasonable attempt to not move another resident into the room
22 unless the resident or resident representative has consented to the use of the existing
23 authorized electronic monitoring.
- 24 7. A facility may not refuse to admit an individual and may not remove a resident from a
25 facility because of authorized electronic monitoring of a resident's room. A person may
26 not intentionally retaliate or discriminate against a resident for consent to authorized
27 electronic monitoring.
- 28 8. A facility clearly and conspicuously shall post a sign at or near the facility's main
29 entrance which states authorized electronic monitoring devices may be in use in the
30 facility and at the entrance of a resident's room where authorized electronic monitoring
31 is being conducted.

- 1 9. A facility or staff of the facility may not access any video or audio recording created
2 through an authorized electronic monitoring device placed in a resident's room without
3 the written consent of the resident or resident representative or court order.
- 4 10. A person that intentionally hampers, obstructs, tampers with, or destroys a recording
5 or an authorized electronic monitoring device placed in a resident's room, without the
6 express written consent of the resident or resident representative, is subject to a
7 class B misdemeanor. A person that places an electronic monitoring device in the
8 room of a resident or which uses or discloses a tape or other recording made by the
9 device may be civilly liable for any unlawful violation of the privacy rights of another.
- 10 11. A person may not intercept a communication or disclose or use an intercepted
11 communication of an authorized electronic monitoring device placed in a resident's
12 room, without the express written consent of the resident or the resident
13 representative.