

BILL NO.

Introduced by

Senator Mathern

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 50-06-05.3 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to regional human service centers entering contracts with private behavioral health
3 providers.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 50-06-05.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **50-06-05.3. Regional human service centers - Powers - Duties - Human service**
8 **advisory groups.**

9 1. Regional human service centers shall provide human services to all eligible individuals
10 and families to help individuals and families achieve or maintain social, emotional, and
11 economic self-sufficiency by providing human services to:

12 a. Prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency;

13 b. Prevent or remedy the neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and of adults
14 unable to protect their own interests;

15 c. Aid in the preservation, rehabilitation, and reuniting of families;

16 d. Prevent or reduce inappropriate institutional care by providing for care while
17 institutionalized or providing for community-based or other forms of less
18 restrictive care;

19 e. Secure referral or admission for institutional care;

20 f. Provide outpatient diagnostic and treatment services;

21 g. Provide information concerning guardianship to people interested in becoming or
22 who are guardians; and

23 h. Provide rehabilitation and crisis services for patients with mental, emotional, or
24 substance use disorders, an intellectual disability, and other psychiatric

1 conditions, particularly for those patients who have received prior treatment in an
2 inpatient facility.

3 2. Regional human service centers shall deliver services in the manner prescribed by the
4 department.

5 3. Each human service center must have a human services advisory group consisting of
6 the human service zone directors of the region served, the public health directors of
7 the region served, two current county commissioners appointed by the executive
8 director of the department, and five additional members appointed by the executive
9 director of the department. Each advisory group member must be a resident of the
10 region the member is appointed to serve. The term of office for each appointed
11 member is two years and arranged so that the term of three of the appointed members
12 expires at the end of the first year and the term of the remaining four appointed
13 members expires at the end of the second year, except for those first members
14 appointed, three members shall serve a one-year term and four members shall serve
15 a two-year term. The director shall select the appointed members of each human
16 service advisory group on the basis of population of the counties in the region served
17 by the human service center. Each county in the region must be represented by at
18 least one member on the human service advisory group. To the extent possible,
19 appointed membership of the advisory group must reflect regional interests in the
20 fields of developmental disabilities, social services, mental health, and substance use
21 disorders. The executive director of the department shall appoint a chairman for each
22 advisory group from the membership of the advisory group. The executive director of
23 the department shall fill a vacancy occurring within an advisory group for other than
24 the expiration of a term in the same manner as original appointments, except that
25 appointments must be made only for the unexpired term. The department shall
26 compensate appointed members of a human service advisory group at the rate of
27 forty-five dollars per day, not to exceed twenty-five days in any one year. The
28 department also shall pay members for mileage and actual expenses incurred in
29 attending meetings and in the performance of their official duties in the amounts
30 provided by law for other state officers.

- 1 4. Each human service center shall contract with a private behavioral health care
- 2 provider for acute psychiatric treatment and substance use disorder treatment services
- 3 when those services are unavailable at the human service center.