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Volcosta Richard
Operator's Signature

10/6/03
Date

2003 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

HB 1460

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Yolanda Richard
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10/16/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1460

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 1-28-03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0.6-19.6
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Sharon Snyder</i>			

Minutes: Chairman Price: called the hearing to order. All committee members were present.

Representative Niemeier: was the prime sponsor of the bill and provide written testimony (**SEE ATTACHED TESTIMONY.**)

Representative Devlin: abortion rate is dropping in North Dakota, how do you feel this will add to the abortion rate?

Representative Neimeier: it may not be related to this particular situation there are other factors that are going to effect that drop.

Representative Kerzman: co-sponsor of HB 1460 and in support of the bill. My one concern is benefit caps, and my basic feeling is even if its one abortion, its one abortion too many. That is basically where I come from. The numbers have gone down that is correct, even if its one that is still to many. I also encourage birth and bring to a full term.

Christopher Dodds, Executive Director of the North Dakota Catholic Conference: supports the

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House Human Services Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HB 1460

Hearing Date 1-28-03

bill and provided written testimony (SEE ATTACHED TESTIMONY). Discriminating against a child fully because his or her circumstances of conception violates a child's dignity and diminishes the human good. Abortion numbers went down since 1996, up in 1998 since then they have gone down.

John Hougen, Director, of Public Assistance for the Dept. of Human Services: was present and provided written testimony (SEE ATTACHED TESTIMONY).

Representative Price: you are saying, because they don't get the cash benefits, they are getting increased food stamps?

John Hougen: right.

Representative Potter: I need a little bit more explanation, it says the benefit cap does not allow an increase, can a client conceive a child in the month during the month that they receive a benefit?

Representative Niemeier: You have referred to the fact that child support cannot be awarded to a child under the benefit plan, am I correct.

John Hougen: there was another benefit cap dealing with that last session, what we were doing is referring kids to child support.

Representative Devlin: you mentioned that when another child comes into the home there is an increase for food stamps is that correct, and there is an increase for the child's benefits?

John Hougen: yes that is correct.

Representative Amerman: what would be the increase under the program?

John Hougen: it varies a little bit it depends on the number of kids in the program it was right around \$90.00 per child per month.

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1460
Hearing Date 1-28-03

Representative Devlin: Is fuel assistance to be increased also?

John Hougen: the benefit cap has no effect on this.

Hearing closed.

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Salvatore Riccardi
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1460

House Human Services Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 29, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2		x	52.6 - 61.7
3	x		0.0 - 7.7
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Sharon Penzance</i>			

Minutes: Committee Work

Rep. Price gave explanation

Rep. Niemeier: had question of increase in household family size. Answer: has to have children before they can be on TANF.

Rep. Potter: question on page 3, line 12 on individual responsibility plan. Answer: contract type agreement. If you refuse, you can be sanctioned and lose benefits.

Rep. Sandvig: Does the Federal Government require us to have a family cap? Answer: No

Rep. Niemeier: The child suffers and stays in life of poverty, not ethical.

Rep. Devlin: There has to be personal responsibility. We all make decisions on our family

Rep. Potter: Its a difficult bill, comes down to punishing our children and not the adults.

Rep. Weisz: Parents are sanctioned for not following through, if they don't follow the plan. If they are going to get back up on their feet, you have to do these things and if that means delaying having additional children for whatever length of time, then so be it.

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House Human Services Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1460
Hearing Date January 29, 2003

Rep. Niemeier: Wants to bring attention again to Rep. Kerzman's testimony in reference to the fact that this kind of sanction can lead to more abortions and I think that is more apt to be the choice of at-risk families.

Rep. Sandvig: has a problem with the fiscal note.

Rep. Devlin made a motion for DO NOT PASS, second by Rep. Wieland.

VOTE: 9 - 4 - 0

Rep. Devlin will carry the bill.

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Al Costa Rickford
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 01/21/2003

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1460

1A. **State fiscal effect:** Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.

	2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium		2005-2007 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues				\$476,697		\$455,328
Expenditures			\$7,172	\$476,697	(\$6,528)	\$455,328
Appropriations			\$7,172	\$476,697		

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.

2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium			2005-2007 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2. **Narrative:** Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.

Currently, when a child is born to a family receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the family does not see an increase in their benefits (benefit cap). This bill would remove that benefit cap, resulting in additional TANF benefits being paid out to those families. Removal of the benefit cap would require programming changes to the Vision system. Since TANF benefits are used in determining the food stamp benefit, there would be a corresponding decrease in food stamp benefits for the affected families. Under current law, benefit cap children cannot be referred to the child support enforcement agency because they are not receiving a grant. This bill would require them to be referred which would result in additional child support collections.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:

A. **Revenues:** Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.

Total other revenue received under this bill would be approximately \$476,697. The Department would receive \$651,942 of federal funds for the increase TANF benefits and programming changes to the Vision system during the 03-05 biennium. The additional child support collections would generate approximately \$6,307. The decrease in food stamp expenditures would decrease federal funds from the food stamp program by \$181,552 in the 03-05 biennium. $\{ \$651,942 + \$6,307 - \$181,552 = \$476,697 \}$

B. **Expenditures:** Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.

During the 03-05 biennium expenditures will increase by approximately \$483,869, consisting of an increase in grant expenditures of \$440,912 and operating expenditures of \$42,957 for the necessary program changes to the Vision system.

C. **Appropriations:** Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive

budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.

The Executive Budget for 2003-2005 does not contain the funding for this policy change and therefore additional appropriation authority totaling \$483,869, with \$7,172 being general funds would need to be added to the Department's budget.

Name:	Debra A. McDermott	Agency:	Human Services
Phone Number:	328-3695	Date Prepared:	01/24/2003

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Date: January __, 2003
Roll Call Vote #:

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1460

House _____ HUMAN SERVICES _____ Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken DNP

Motion Made By Rep Devlin Seconded By Rep Wieland

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. Clara Sue Price - Chair	✓		Rep. Sally Sandvig		✓
Rep. Bill Devlin, Vice-Chair	✓		Rep. Bill Amerman		✓
Rep. Robin Weisz	✓		Rep. Carol Niemeier		✓
Rep. Vonnie Pietsch	✓		Rep. Louise Potter		✓
Rep. Gerald Ugiem	✓				
Rep. Chet Pollert	✓				
Rep. Todd Porter	✓				
Rep. Gary Kreidt	✓				
Rep. Alon Wieland	✓				

Total (Yes) 9 No 4

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Devlin

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Yolanda Richardson 10/16/03
Operator's Signature Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 30, 2003 8:45 a.m.

Module No: HR-18-1313
Carrier: Devlin
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1460: Human Services Committee (Rep. Price, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT**
PASS (9 YEAS, 4 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1460 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-18-1313

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