

Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3004
(Legislative Council)
(Budget Committee on Long-Term Care)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the swing-bed process.

WHEREAS, the June 1996 Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning report indicated that swing-bed care, as a form of long-term care, is relatively unregulated when compared to nursing facilities; and

WHEREAS, the June 1996 Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning report indicated that little data is available about individuals served in a swing-bed setting; and

WHEREAS, the June 1996 Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning report indicated that it appears that some swing-bed facilities were beginning to use swing beds for permanent placements rather than just short-term stays, thereby circumventing controls over the expansion of long-term care beds; and

WHEREAS, census data indicates that swing-bed hospitals are admitting residents for long periods of time and that a total of 22 percent of admissions were for more than six months and 47 residents were in swing beds for more than a year; and

WHEREAS, there is concern that long-term placement of residents in swing beds is going beyond the original concept of swing beds and that some hospitals have gone beyond the original intent and are providing ongoing long-term care services to their residents; and

WHEREAS, swing-bed services are not required to be at the same level as long-term care facility services and there continues to be a lack of any standardized measurement process available to determine the quality of care being provided in swing-bed facilities; and

WHEREAS, there are 1,594 potential swing beds in North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning expressed concern about the impact the number of available swing beds could have on the overall goal of providing long-term care services in the least restrictive, most cost-effective manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Legislative Council study the swing-bed process to determine if changes are necessary in the current requirements for providing services to swing-bed residents, including the need for a standard assessment process and whether any limits such as length of stay or number of available swing beds should be implemented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Council report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1999,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State