Sixty-second Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

## **HOUSE BILL NO. 1199**

Introduced by

Representatives Keiser, Glassheim

Senators Wardner, O'Connell

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 50-06-24 of the North Dakota Century Code,

- 2 relating to guardianship services; and to provide an appropriation.for an Act to provide for a
- 3 study of guardianship services for vulnerable adults in the state; and to provide an
- 4 appropriation.

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

6 SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 50-06-24 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

50-06-24. Guardianship services.

The department of human services may create and coordinate a unified system for the provision of guardianship services to vulnerable adults who are ineligible for developmental disabilities case management services. The system must<u>may</u> include a base unit funding level at the same level as developmental disability corporate guardianship rates, provider standards, staff competency requirements, and guidelines and training for guardians. The department shall<u>may</u> adopt rules for guardianship services to vulnerable adults which are consistent with chapters 30.1-26, 30.1-28, and 30.1-29.

**SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$65,275, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the Department of Human Services for the purpose of funding guardianship program enhancements, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2013.

**SECTION 1. GUARDIANSHIP SERVICES STUDY.** During the 2011-12 interim, the legislative management shall contract with a consultant to study guardianship services for vulnerable adults in the state. The study must include an analysis of the need for guardianship services in the state; the establishment of guardianships; petitioning costs and other costs

associated with providing guardianship services; the entities responsible for guardianship costs; and the interaction between the courts, counties, state agencies, and guardianship organizations regarding guardianship services. The consultant shall provide periodic reports to the legislative management. The consultant shall present the final report and recommendations regarding the study to the legislative management before June 1, 2012. The legislative management shall report the findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-third legislative assembly.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$50,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative management for the purpose of contracting with a consultant for a study of guardianship services for vulnerable adults as described in section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2013.