

**Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2017**

SENATE BILL NO. 2038  
(Legislative Management)  
(Human Services Committee)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the establishment of a task force on children's behavioral health; to amend and reenact section 15.1-07-34, subsection 1 of section 25-03.1-11, and section 25-03.1-26 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to emergency hold limitations for mental health examinations; to provide for a report to the governor and the legislative management; and to repeal sections 15.1-19-19 and 15.1-19-24 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to professional development training regarding the prevention of bullying and youth suicide.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-07-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15.1-07-34. Provision of youth ~~mental~~behavioral health training to teachers, administrators, and ancillary staff.**

1. ~~Once every~~Every two years, each school district shall provide a minimum of eight hours of ~~training~~professional development on youth ~~mental~~behavioral health to elementary, middle, and high school teachers, and administrators. Each school district shall encourage ancillary and support staff to participate in the ~~training~~professional development. ~~The training must include~~Based on the annual needs assessment of the school district, these hours must be designated from the following categories:
  - a. Trauma;
  - b. Social and emotional learning, including resiliency;
  - c. Suicide prevention;
  - d. Bullying;
  - e. Understanding of the prevalence and impact of youth ~~mental~~behavioral health disorderswellness on family structure, education, juvenile services, law enforcement, and health care and treatment providers;
  - b-f. Knowledge of ~~mental~~behavioral health symptoms, ~~social stigmas, and~~ risks, and ~~protective factors; and~~
  - e-g. Awareness of referral sources and evidence-based strategies for appropriate interventions; or
  - h. Other evidence-based strategies to reduce risk factors for students.
2. Each school district shall report the ~~outcome of the training~~professional development hours to the department of public instruction.
3. The superintendent of public instruction shall collaborate with regional education associations to disseminate information, training materials, and notice of training opportunities to school districts and nonpublic schools.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 25-03.1-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. The respondent must be examined within a reasonable time by an expert examiner as ordered by the court. If the respondent is taken into custody under the emergency treatment provisions of this chapter, the examination must be conducted within ~~twenty-four hours, exclusive of holidays, of custody~~ the time limitations set forth in section 25-03.1-26. Any expert examiner conducting an examination under this section may consult with or request participation in the examination by any qualified mental health professional and may include with the written examination report any findings or observations by that mental health professional. This examination report, and that of the independent examiner, if one has been requested, must be filed with the court. The report must contain:
  - a. Evaluations of the respondent's physical condition and mental status.
  - b. A conclusion as to whether the respondent is a person requiring treatment, with a clear explanation of how that conclusion was derived from the evaluation.
  - c. If the report concludes that the respondent is a person requiring treatment, a list of available forms of care and treatment that may serve as alternatives to involuntary hospitalization.
  - d. The signature of the examiner who prepared the report.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 25-03.1-26 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**25-03.1-26. Emergency procedure - Acceptance of petition and individual - Notice - Court hearing set.**

1. A public treatment facility immediately shall accept and a private treatment facility may accept on a provisional basis the application and the individual admitted under section 25-03.1-25. The superintendent or director shall require an immediate examination of the subject and, either within twenty-four hours, exclusive of holidays, after admission or within seventy-two hours after admission, exclusive of holidays, if the individual is admitted with a serious physical condition or illness that requires prompt treatment, shall either release:
  - a. Release the individual if the superintendent or director finds that the subject does not meet the emergency commitment standards; or file
  - b. File a petition if one has not been filed with the court of the individual's residence or the court which directed immediate custody under subsection 2 of section 25-03.1-25, giving notice to the court and stating in detail the circumstances and facts of the case.
2. Upon receipt of the petition and notice of the emergency detention, the magistrate shall set a date for a preliminary hearing, if the respondent is alleged to be a person who is mentally ill or a person who is both mentally ill and chemically dependent, or a treatment hearing, if the respondent is alleged to be a person who is chemically dependent, to be held no later than four days, exclusive of weekends and holidays, after detention unless the person has been released as a person not requiring treatment, has been voluntarily admitted for treatment, has requested or agreed to a continuance, or unless the hearing has been extended by the magistrate for good cause shown. The magistrate shall appoint counsel if one has not been retained by the respondent.

**SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 50-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Task force on children's behavioral health - Membership - Duties - Reports to governor and legislative management.**

1. The task force on children's behavioral health is created for the purpose of assessing and guiding efforts within the children's behavioral health system to ensure a full continuum of care is available in the state.
2. The task force consists of the following members:
  - a. The superintendent of public instruction, or the superintendent's designee;
  - b. The executive director of the department of human services, or the executive director's designee;
  - c. The state health officer, or the state health officer's designee;
  - d. The director of the department of corrections and rehabilitation, or the director's designee;
  - e. The executive director of the Indian affairs commission, or the executive director's designee; and
  - f. The director of the committee on protection and advocacy, or the director's designee.
3. The executive director of the department of human services, or the executive director's designee, shall serve as the chairman of the task force. The task force shall meet at least quarterly. Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the chairman.
4. The task force may request appropriate staff services from the department of human services.
5. The task force shall:
  - a. Assess and guide efforts within the children's behavioral health system to ensure a full behavioral health continuum of care is available in the state;
  - b. Make recommendations to ensure the children's behavioral health services are seamless, effective, and not duplicative;
  - c. Identify recommendations and strategies to address gaps or needs in the children's behavioral health system;
  - d. Engage stakeholders from across the continuum to assess and develop strategies to address gaps or needs in areas including:
    - (1) Education;
    - (2) Juvenile justice;
    - (3) Child welfare;
    - (4) Community; and
    - (5) Health; and
  - e. Provide a report to the governor and the legislative management every six months regarding the status of the task force's efforts.

**SECTION 5. REPORT TO GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.** Before July 1, 2018, the task force on children's behavioral health shall report its findings and recommendations and any proposed legislation necessary to implement the recommendations to the legislative management.

**SECTION 6. REPEAL.** Sections 15.1-19-19 and 15.1-19-24 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2038.

Senate Vote:    Yeas 47            Nays 0            Absent 0

House Vote:    Yeas 68            Nays 23           Absent 3

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Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State