

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1280**

Introduced by

Representatives Fehr, D. Anderson, Hofstad, Lefor, Schatz

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study of the feasibility and desirability  
2 of reorganizing and restructuring the department of human services.

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

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - REORGANIZATION AND**  
5 **RESTRUCTURING OF DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.**

6 1. During the 2015-16 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the  
7 feasibility and desirability of reorganizing and restructuring the department of human  
8 services. The study must include an analysis of how to best meet the needs of  
9 individuals needing behavioral health services by restructuring funding and provision  
10 of services by the department of human services, with emphasis on a transition to a  
11 mental health system of care which accomplishes the following:

12 a. Develops a funding mechanism to encourage treatment teams and professional  
13 collaboration, using health homes or other capitated processes for individuals  
14 with multiple major health challenges.

15 b. Transitions from provision of direct mental health services by regional human  
16 service centers toward contracting for services from private entities that can  
17 provide an integrated, consumer-centered approach; with services that are to be  
18 community-based with a creative treatment team that can respond to multiple  
19 and complex needs, especially to prevent or minimize the need for inpatient,  
20 out-of-home, and out-of-state placements; and with treatment plans based on  
21 individual needs in the context of family and social supports.

22 c. Includes funding that is outcome-driven, not fee-for-service, using a capitated  
23 approach that ties funding to outcomes, especially to maximize the consumer's

- 1 health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and capacity to be a contributing member of  
2 society.
- 3 d. Optimizes measurement, outcomes, and program effectiveness by contracting  
4 with social science researchers at state universities to ensure the involvement of  
5 researchers on the individual and program levels and ongoing measurement and  
6 evaluation to direct the provision of services.
- 7 2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together  
8 with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fifth  
9 legislative assembly.