

Introduced by

Representatives Westlind, Tveit, Weisz

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 26.1-36-12.7 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to freedom of choice for health care services.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** Section 26.1-36-12.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
5 enacted as follows:

6 **26.1-36-12.7. Freedom of choice for health care services.**

7 1. As used in this section:

8 a. "Health care provider" includes an individual licensed under chapter 43-05,
9 43-06, 43-12.1 as a registered nurse or as an advanced practice registered
10 nurse, 43-13, 43-15, 43-17, 43-26.1, 43-28, 43-32, 43-37, 43-40, 43-41, 43-42,
11 43-44, 43-45, 43-47, 43-58, or 43-60.

12 b. "Policy" means a health insurance policy, contract, or evidence of coverage on a
13 group, individual, blanket, franchise, or association basis.

14 2. A health insurer, including the North Dakota Medicaid program, may not obstruct
15 patient choice by excluding a health care provider licensed under the laws of this state
16 from participating on the health insurer's panel of providers if the provider is located
17 within the geographic coverage area of the health benefit plan and is willing and fully
18 qualified to meet the terms and conditions of participation, as established by the health
19 insurer.