

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

SENATE BILL NO. 2089
(Human Services Committee)
(At the request of the Department of Human Services)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 17 of section 50-06-05.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to financing of welfare programs and housing stabilization supports and rental assistance; to repeal sections 1-02-35 and 50-06-14 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to obsolete effective date language and financing of welfare programs; to provide a statement of legislative intent; to provide for a legislative management study; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 17 of section 50-06-05.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

17. To administer, allocate, and distribute any funds made available for the making of direct cash assistance payments, housing ~~assistance payments~~stabilization supports, and rental subsidies under any rental assistance programs initiated by the federal government not otherwise by law made the responsibility of another state agency possessing statewide jurisdiction and to promote cooperation and working agreements with public agencies and including the housing finance agency and department of commerce, and private human services agencies.

SECTION 2. REPEAL. Sections 1-02-35 and 50-06-14 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE INTENT - AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER VOUCHER PROGRAM. The department of human services shall adopt rules to seek additional flexibility for the administration of the autism spectrum disorder voucher program to ensure families can be served within available appropriations for the program. The administrative code changes should consider changes that include reducing the amount of approved voucher funds available to each household and the amount of time during which a household may use approved voucher funds.

SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER WAIVER AND VOUCHER PROGRAMS AND TASK FORCE. During the 2021-22 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the autism spectrum disorder waiver and voucher programs and other programs designed to provide services to children who are impacted by autism spectrum disorder and the elimination of the autism spectrum disorder task force. The study may include consideration of the structure of the programs and whether there are any gaps and unmet needs, including contracting with a private, nonprofit entity that does not provide autism spectrum disorder services to facilitate and provide support services to the autism spectrum disorder task force. The legislative management shall report its finding and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-eighth legislative assembly.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2089 and that two-thirds of the members-elect of the Senate voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 44 Nays 2 Absent 1

President of the Senate

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that two-thirds of the members-elect of the House of Representatives voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 89 Nays 4 Absent 1

Speaker of the House

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2021,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State