

Testimony
House Bill 1047 – Department of Human Services
House Industry, Business and Labor
Representative George Keiser, Chairman
January 13, 2015

Chairman Keiser, and members of the House Industry, Business and Labor Committee, I am Russell Cusack, Director of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Human Services (Department). I am here today to provide information relating to licensing employment agents and agencies.

The Department licenses and certifies community rehabilitation providers (CRPs) that are contracted to provide employment-related services to individuals served by the Department. The quality standards included in licensing and certification is intended to establish program criteria for providers that serve clients of the Department. Core to the approval process for licensed or certified CRPs of the Department include: North Dakota business license, accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) or the Council on Quality Leadership (CQL); proof of insurance to include worker's compensation, comprehensive and general liability and comprehensive automobile insurance.

The monitoring of the quality of service received by the individual clients of the Department through certified and licensed CRPs occurs at the local human service center. Human service center staff are assigned to provide case management services that include referral to CRPs and monitoring to ensure employment related services provided to clients is of high quality and results in assisting the individual clients to obtain and maintain employment.

The Department's licensing and certification of CRPs while protecting individuals served by the Department does not extend to protect individuals that are not served by the Department.

I would be happy to answer any questions.