

**Testimony**  
**House Bill 1116 – Department of Human Services**  
**House Human Services Committee**  
**Representative Weisz, Chairman**  
**January 9, 2017**

Chairman Weisz, and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Rosalie Etherington, Superintendent of the North Dakota State Hospital (NDSH) for the Department of Human Services (Department). I am here today in support of House Bill 1116, which was introduced at the request of the Department, and is in relation to the structure of the NDSH Governing Body.

On January 7, 2007 The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) became known as simply The Joint Commission, and thus we recommend this change to Subsection 1 of Section 25-02-01.1.

In regards to the amendments to Subsection 3 of Section 25-02-01.1 mental health services, although not inaccurate, is not considered inclusive of addiction services and thus we recommend this change to behavioral health. In addition, the Department has centralized fiscal function. Therefore, the statute needs to be updated to reflect what's in place for fiscal administration.

This concludes my testimony. I am open to questions the committee may have. Thank you.