

**Testimony**  
**House Bill 1326 - Department of Human Services**  
**Senate Human Services Committee**  
**Senator Judy Lee, Chairman**

March 03, 2021

Chairman Lee and members of the Human Services Committee, I am Nancy Nikolas Maier, Director of the Aging Services Division for the Department of Human Services (Department). I appear today to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1326.

The Department did emergency rules in May 2020 to North Dakota Administrative Code 75-03-23 to exempt the first round of federal stimulus payments that individuals received from income for determining eligibility for the Service Payment to the Elderly and Disabled program. As you are aware these federal stimulus payments were determined and distributed by the federal government in response to the COVID pandemic.

This bill will exempt the second round of federal, COVID related payments from being counted as income and a resource as well. If this bill is enacted into law, it will allow the individual to keep the payment and it will not impact eligibility.

This concludes my testimony. I will be happy to answer and questions you may have.