

**BEFORE THE
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES COMMITTEE
OF THE
NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

Request for an Extension for)	
Administrative Rules governing)	
Substance Use Disorder)	
Treatment Voucher System)	<u>DEPARTMENT OF</u>
)	<u>HUMAN SERVICES</u>
)	
)	March 14, 2016
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Chairman Devlin and members of the committee, my name is Jonathan Alm and I am an attorney with the Department of Human Services' Legal Advisory Unit. I am here today to request an extension to adopt administrative rules governing substance use disorder treatment voucher system, as required by Section 4 of 2015 Senate Bill No. 2048. Generally, rules for legislation with a July first effective date should be adopted by April first of the following calendar year. The Department has completed the entire rulemaking project with the exception of filing the necessary documents with Legislative Council by February 1, 2016, due to the budget allotment process. The Department, in order to comply with budget allotment process, was carefully reviewing the voucher system funding along with all programs and services. The Department's allotment includes a reduction to the voucher funding; however, since funding remains for the voucher, the Department must continue to establish and administer a voucher system. If the extension is granted, the Department intends to adopt rules by July 1, 2016.

I would be happy to try and answer any questions that you may have.

Thank you.

Prepared by:
Jonathan Alm
March 10, 2016