

Testimony
Senate Bill 2240 - Department of Human Services
House Human Services Committee
Representative Robin Weisz, Chairman

March 6, 2019

Chairman Weisz and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Pamela Sagness, Director of the Behavioral Health Division of the Department of Human Services (Department). I appear today to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 2240.

Senate Bill 2240 updates language found in North Dakota Century Code to be aligned with current terminology, including being person-centered. For example, throughout the various sections, “alcohol dependence” is changed to “alcohol use disorder”; “chemical dependency” is changed to “substance use disorder” or “addiction” as appropriate for the section; “chemically dependent or mentally ill patients” is changed to “individuals with a mental illness or substance use disorder”; and “habitual drunkard” language is eliminated.

This concludes my testimony, and I am happy to answer any questions.