Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2015

SENATE BILL NO. 2367
(Senators Poolman, Marcellais, Rust)
(Representatives Delmore, Fehr, Larson)

AN ACT to provide for the creation of a task force on substance exposed newborns; and to provide for a report to the legislative management.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. TASK FORCE ON SUBSTANCE EXPOSED NEWBORNS - MEMBERSHIP - DUTIES - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.

1. The task force on substance exposed newborns is created for the purpose of researching the impact of substance abuse and neonatal withdrawal syndrome, evaluating effective strategies for treatment and prevention, and providing policy recommendations.

2. The task force consists of the following members:

   a. The attorney general, or the attorney general's designee;

   b. The executive director of the department of human services, or the executive director's designee;

   c. A member of the senate, appointed by the legislative management;

   d. A member of the house of representatives, appointed by the legislative management;

   e. A state's attorney, appointed by the North Dakota association of counties;

   f. A representative of the North Dakota medical association;

   g. A representative of an addiction and recovery association, appointed by the attorney general;

   h. A representative of the North Dakota chapter of the march of dimes;

   i. A representative of prevent child abuse North Dakota;

   j. The executive director of the Indian affairs commission, or the executive director's designee;

   k. Four enrolled tribal members representing tribes located in the state, appointed by the Indian affairs commission;

   l. A representative of the department of human services with expertise in early intervention and Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, appointed by the executive director of the department of human services;

   m. A representative of law enforcement, appointed by the attorney general;

   n. A representative of the foster care community, appointed by the executive director of the department of human services;

   o. A county social services director, appointed by the executive director of the department of human services;

p. A neonatologist, appointed by the North Dakota academy of pediatrics; and

q. A neonatal intensive care unit nurse, appointed by the state board of nursing.

3. The attorney general, or the attorney general's designee, shall serve as the chairman of the task force. The task force shall meet at least quarterly. Additional meetings may be held at the discretion of the chairman.

4. The task force may request appropriate staff services from the department of human services.

5. The members of the task force who are not state employees or members of the legislative assembly are entitled to mileage and expenses as provided by law for state officers and employees. Unless otherwise provided in this subsection, the expenses of appointed members are to be paid by the department of human services. A state employee who is a member of the task force is entitled to receive that employee's regular salary and is entitled to mileage and expenses, to be paid by the employing agency. The members of the task force who are members of the legislative assembly are entitled to compensation from the legislative council for attendance at task force meetings at the rate provided for members of the legislative assembly for attendance at interim committee meetings and are entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in attending the meetings in the amounts provided by law for other state officers.

6. The task force shall:

   a. Collect and organize data concerning the nature and extent of neonatal withdrawal syndrome from substance abuse in this state;

   b. Collect and organize data concerning the costs associated with treating expectant mothers and newborns suffering from withdrawal substance abuse;

   c. Identify available federal, state, and local programs that provide services to mothers who abuse drugs or alcohol and to newborns who have neonatal withdrawal syndrome and evaluate those programs and services to determine if gaps in programs or ineffective policies exist; and

   d. Evaluate methods to increase public awareness of the dangers associated with substance abuse, particularly to women, expectant mothers, and newborns.

7. Before July 1, 2016, the task force shall report its findings and recommendations and any proposed legislation necessary to implement the recommendations to the legislative management.

Dale Dever
President of the Senate

Wesley R. Belter
Speaker of the House

Jane Schafer
Secretary of the Senate

Brent J. Reich
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2367.

Senate Vote:	Yeas 47	Nays 0	Absent 0
House Vote:	Yeas 81	Nays 9	Absent 4

Jane Schafer
Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at 4:12 P.M. on April 13, 2015.

Approved at 11:20 A.M. on April 15, 2015.

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Filed in this office this 15th day of April, 2015,

at 2:49 o'clock P M.

Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State