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

HOUSE BILL NO. 1106
(Judiciary Committee)
(At the request of the Adjutant General)

AN ACT to provide for a legislative management study of issues relating to criminal defendants who are veterans or who are currently serving in the armed forces.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - CRIMINAL JUSTICE ISSUES RELATING TO DEFENDANTS WHO ARE VETERANS OR SERVING IN ARMED FORCES.

1. The legislative management shall consider studying, during the 2015-16 interim, issues related to criminal defendants who are veterans or who are currently serving in the armed forces, including:

   a. Whether additional treatment and sentencing options should be considered if a defendant is suspected to have posttraumatic stress disorder or other behavioral health conditions;

   b. Whether the additional treatment and sentencing options should apply to both misdemeanor and felony offenses and, if applied to misdemeanor offenses, the impact those additional cases would have on the courts and the department of corrections and rehabilitation;

   c. The point in the criminal proceeding at which the inquiry regarding the defendant's behavioral health condition should be made;

   d. What actions are being taken by other states' judicial and criminal justice systems to address similar issues regarding criminal defendants who are veterans or who are currently serving in the armed forces; and

   e. What steps the state needs to take to ensure that veterans and other armed forces personnel with posttraumatic stress disorder or other behavioral health conditions are best handled in the state's criminal justice system.

2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fifth legislative assembly.

Wesley R. Belter
Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Brent J. Reich
Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-fourth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1106.

House Vote:	Yeas 88	Nays 4	Absent 2
Senate Vote:	Yeas 46	Nays 0	Absent 1

Brent J. Reich
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 9:52A M. on April 21, 2015.

Approved at 9:37A M. on April 22, 2015.

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Filed in this office this 22nd day of April, 2015,

at 2:42 o'clock P. M.

Secretary of State