

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1097
(Representative Frelich)

AN ACT to provide for a legislative management study regarding accessibility of government services for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have hearing differences.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - ACCESSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DEAF, HARD OF HEARING, OR HAVE HEARING DIFFERENCES.

1. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall study the accessibility of state and local services for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have hearing differences. The study must:
 - a. Consider the requirements under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act providing for state and local government entities to communicate effectively with individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have hearing differences.
 - b. Consider challenges or barriers to effective communication for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have hearing differences when communicating with, including receiving information from and conveying information to, state and local government entities, and identify strategies for improving communication.
 - c. Include input from the department of labor and human rights, department of health and human services, employees of the school for the deaf, individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have hearing differences, information technology professionals, American sign language interpreters, and family members of individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have hearing differences.
2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.

Ralph H. Stein
Speaker of the House

Michelle Strieder
President of the Senate

Buell J. Reist
Chief Clerk of the House

Brenda Morgan
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1097.

House Vote: Yeas 87 Nays 1 Absent 6

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

Buell J. Reist
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 3:30 P M. on March 18, 2025.

Approved at 4:52 P M. on March 19, 2025.

Bobby J. Foss
Governor

Filed in this office this 20th day of March, 2025,
at 4:02 o'clock P M.

Michael Howe
Secretary of State