

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

SENATE BILL NO. 2209
(Senators Cleary, Larson)
(Representatives Hanson, O'Brien, Satrom, Schneider)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the expansion of medical examinations of victims of criminal conduct; and to provide an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 12.1-34-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

12.1-34-07. Medical screening and acute forensic medical examinations costs - Reimbursement by attorney general - Use of evidence.

1. An acute forensic medical examination is an examination performed on an alleged victim of criminal sexual conduct or domestic violence for the purpose of gathering evidence of an alleged crime and is performed within ~~ninety-six~~ one hundred twenty hours after the alleged crime unless good cause is shown for the delay in performing the examination. When an acute forensic medical examination is performed, the costs incurred by a health care facility or health care professional for performing the acute forensic medical examination or any preliminary medical screening examination may not be charged, either directly or through a third-party payer, to the alleged victim.
2. A child forensic medical examination is an examination performed on an alleged child victim of criminal sexual conduct, physical abuse, or neglect for the purpose of gathering evidence of an alleged crime. When a child forensic medical examination is performed, the costs incurred by a health care facility or health care professional for performing the child forensic medical examination or any preliminary medical screening examination may not be charged, either directly or through a third-party payer, to the alleged child victim or the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.
3. Upon submission of appropriate documentation, the attorney general, within the limits of legislative appropriations, shall reimburse the health care facility or a health care professional for the reasonable costs incurred in performing the medical screening and acute forensic medical examination. The attorney general, subject to legislative appropriations, shall reimburse each accredited children's advocacy center located in the state for a forensic interview that is not reimbursable by Medicaid or crime victims compensation.
4. Evidence obtained during a medical examination under this section may not be used against an alleged victim for the prosecution of the alleged victim for a separate offense.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - ATTORNEY GENERAL - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAMINATION PROGRAM - REPORTS. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$200,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the attorney general in a domestic violence examinations line item for the purpose of the domestic violence forensic medical examination program for community-based or hospital-based domestic violence examiner programs and related administrative costs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. Any organization that receives funding under this section shall report to the attorney general and the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly on the use of the funds received and the outcomes of its programs. The attorney general shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly on the

number of victims receiving domestic violence forensic medical examinations and documentation of collaborative efforts to assist victims, which includes nurses, the hospital or clinic, law enforcement, and state's attorneys.

Michelle L. Strieder
President of the Senate

Rohi Deising
Speaker of the House

Sharon Morgan
Secretary of the Senate

Bruce J. Reich
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2209.

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

House Vote: Yeas 90 Nays 1 Absent 3

Sharon Morgan
Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at 3:07 P.M. on March 27, 2025.

Approved at 1:44 P.M. on March 28, 2025.

[Signature]
Governor

Filed in this office this 3rd day of March, 2025,

at 9:54 o'clock A M.

Michael Howe
Secretary of State