



2025 House Bill 1108
House Human Services Committee
Representative Matthew Ruby, Chairman
January 15, 2025

Chairman Ruby and members of the House Human Services Committee, I am Melissa Hauer, General Counsel/VP of the North Dakota Hospital Association (NDHA). I am here to testify in support of House Bill 1108. We ask that you give the bill a **Do Pass** recommendation.

Hospitals support the bill because treatment for mental illness and substance use disorder can be difficult to provide across state lines for someone on probation or parole primarily due to legal complexities regarding jurisdiction, supervision requirements, and the need for close collaboration between the probation/parole officer in the originating state and the provider in the treating state. Those barriers sometimes mean that a patient who is committed, is on probation or parole, and resides close by in a bordering state, such as in Moorhead, Minnesota, who could receive treatment in a Fargo, North Dakota facility, must instead travel farther away to receive treatment in the patient's home state.

My understanding is that a similar law change is being pursued in Minnesota to allow for reciprocal treatment. It would allow an individual on probation and parole in North Dakota who is committed to a treatment program to receive that treatment in Minnesota.

This change to our state law would streamline mental health treatment across state lines for individuals on probation or parole. We support efforts to make such treatment easier, more accessible, and, in many cases in our border communities, closer to home and family.

In summary, we ask that you give the bill a **Do Pass** recommendation. I would be happy to respond to any questions you may have. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Hauer, General Counsel/VP
North Dakota Hospital Association