Real. Permanent. Property Tax Relief.

Human Service Redesign Explained

SB 2124 continues the Legislature's efforts to fully fund the direct costs of human service delivery with state resources rather than property taxes, while also enhancing service delivery for North Dakota's citizens.

What is SB 2124?

- Direct delivery of human services through 19 multi-county "zones" that preserve all current service access locations – counties with population over 60,000 can be single-county zones
- Local decision-making in zone creation, with final plan approval by DHS – zones to be implemented by January 1, 2021
- Zone financials included with host county fiscal audit
- A state funding formula for direct costs that is tied to actual 2018 expenditures and state salary adjustments
- Local funding of indirect costs with a portion reimbursed by the federal indirect cost plan
- An expanded human service zone board of county commissioners and other local leaders to hire the zone director and ensure local service needs are addressed
- Consultation role for DHS in zone director selection and clear participation in evaluating performance of the director and zone

- Creation of four zone operational supervisors to provide technical assistance, program supervision, evaluation, and support to zones – but these FTE's will be found within existing zone employment
- All zone employees remain within the state merit system as required by federal law
- Employment and salaries of existing employees will be preserved, with transfers & reassignments protected by existing rules
- A strong process of progressive discipline to ensure performance without endangering the resources necessary for client services
- Transfer of zone employees to the state for specific services that may be identified for "unitization"; but also allows for zone supervision of state employees if they physically remain in the zone office
- Unique local programs to be continued
- Statewide consistency in indigent burial and ultimately general assistance to increase efficiency and guarantee equal access