

**SENATE BILL NO. 2349**

Introduced by

Senators Grindberg, Flakoll

Representative Clark

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 19-02.1 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to limitations on punitive damages.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 19-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 created and enacted as follows:

6 **Limitation on punitive damages.**

- 7 1. Punitive damages may not be awarded against the manufacturer or seller of a  
8 product or device that caused the harm claimed by the plaintiff if:
- 9 a. The product or device was subject to approval under 21 United States Code  
10 355 or premarket approval under 21 United States Code 360e by the food and  
11 drug administration with respect to the safety of formulation or performance of  
12 the aspect of the product or device that caused the harm, or by the adequacy  
13 of the packaging or labeling of the product or device; or
  - 14 b. The product or device was approved by the food and drug administration.
- 15 2. Subsection 1 does not apply in a case in which it is determined on the basis of  
16 clear and convincing evidence that the defendant:
- 17 a. Withheld from or misrepresented to the food and drug administration  
18 information concerning the product or device which is required to be  
19 submitted under the federal Act which is material and relevant to the harm  
20 suffered by the claimant;
  - 21 b. Made an illegal payment to an official of the food and drug administration for  
22 the purpose of securing approval of the product or device; or
  - 23 c. Failed to use reasonable care to comply with the food and drug administration  
24 regulations concerning the manufacture of, or the investigation and correction

1 of defects in design or manufacture of, a medical device, and the failure to  
2 comply has caused the harm suffered by the plaintiff.