

SENATE BILL NO. 2404

Introduced by

Senator Grindberg

Representative Dorso

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 52-08 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to work force training; and to provide an appropriation.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 52-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 created and enacted as follows:

6 **Work force training - Investment fee.**

- 7 1. Job service North Dakota shall assess each employer a work force training
8 investment fee of four one-hundredths of one percent of taxable wages paid by the
9 employer to employees during each calendar year. The work force training
10 investment fee is a fee separate from contributions made under chapter 52-04 and
11 may not be deposited in the unemployment compensation fund. However, job
12 service may assess the fee in the same manner as it collects contributions under
13 chapter 52-04. The work force training investment fee payments may not be
14 included in computing unemployment compensation rates assigned to employees
15 and may not be deducted by an employer from the wages of the employer's
16 employees.
- 17 2. Funds collected under subsection 1 must be deposited in a work force training
18 investment account and used to provide work force training programs at institutions
19 of higher education that are assigned primary responsibility for work force training
20 as defined by the state board of higher education. Administrative costs incurred by
21 job service for the collection of the work force training investment fee and for costs
22 related to the establishment and maintenance of the work force training investment
23 account must be paid from the work force investment training account. The funds
24 may not be used by institutions of higher education for capital construction projects

1 or for assisting students to attain academic degrees. The funds must be used to
2 provide customized work force training, including operation and administration of a
3 training division, acquisition of equipment, marketing, and program development.
4 The institutions of higher education are encouraged to cooperate with job service
5 and the work force 2000 advisory board in addressing customized training needs in
6 the state.

7 3. The president of an institution of higher education that is assigned primary
8 responsibility for work force training shall appoint a regional work force training
9 board consisting of representatives from businesses and industries located within
10 the institution's delivery area. The board must consist of at least seven but no
11 more than fifteen members and a majority of the board members must represent
12 private sector employers.

13 4. Funds collected under subsection 1 must be allocated for use in the area of the
14 state in which the funds were collected. The state board of higher education shall
15 establish up to four regions reflecting the geographical areas of work force training
16 responsibility for the institutions of higher education eligible for funds under this
17 section.

18 5. Job service and the institutions of higher education providing work force training
19 programs shall submit a report annually to the legislative council, the governor, and
20 the state board of higher education regarding the work force training programs
21 receiving funds under this section.

22 **SECTION 2. INITIAL FUNDING - REPAYMENT.** The Bank of North Dakota shall
23 provide a loan of not more than \$500,000 to job service North Dakota to provide initial funds for
24 deposit in the work force training investment account for use to provide work force training
25 programs as provided in section 1 of this Act during the period beginning July 1, 1999, and
26 ending January 1, 2000. Job service North Dakota shall repay the loan by June 30, 2001, from
27 funds collected under section 1 of this Act.

28 **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in
29 the special account created in section 1 of this Act, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of
30 \$1,300,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to job service North Dakota for the

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 purpose of providing work force training programs under sections 1 and 2 of this Act, for the
- 2 biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001.