

**Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine**

SENATE BILL NO. 2289  
(Senators Wanzek, Tomac)  
(Representatives D. Johnson, Renner)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 6-09.10-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to an expiration date for the agricultural mediation service; and to declare an emergency.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-09.10-03 of the 1997 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**6-09.10-03. North Dakota agricultural mediation service - Powers - Compensation and expenses - Fees.** The board shall meet at the call of the chair, as is necessary to fulfill its duties under this chapter. The ~~department of agriculture~~ commissioner shall administer the agricultural mediation service. The ~~commissioner of agriculture~~ shall establish an agricultural mediation service to disseminate information to farmers concerning farm credit problems and to provide assistance to seek to resolve farm credit problems. The commissioner shall appoint an administrator of the agricultural mediation service. The commissioner shall hire staff, negotiators, and mediators who may mediate disputes involving farmers and others, either of whom may request assistance. The board may charge the farmer and others a reasonable fee for any assistance, provided, ~~such funds to be the fees are~~ the fees are used to continue the service until June 30, ~~1999~~ 2001. Fees charged to the farmer's creditors are limited to twenty-five dollars per hour, each, for the time spent in mediation sessions. The board shall adopt policies governing the negotiators, staff, and mediators hired under this section. Board members are entitled to receive sixty-five dollars for each day of official service, as directed by the board. The board members are entitled to expenses as provided in sections 44-08-04 and 54-06-09. The expenses provided under this section may be paid from any funds available in the home-quarter purchase fund.

**SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2289 and that two-thirds of the members-elect of the Senate voted in favor of said law.

Vote:      Yeas          47                  Nays          0                  Absent        2

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that two-thirds of the members-elect of the House of Representatives voted in favor of said law.

Vote:      Yeas          93                  Nays          0                  Absent        5

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 1999.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 1999.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1999,

at \_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State