

SENATE BILL NO. 2179

Introduced by

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

(At the request of the Office of Management and Budget)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 20.1-02-17.1, sections
2 20.1-02-18.1, 54-01.1-08, 54-21.3-04.1, subsections 3 and 4 of section 54-44.5-01, sections
3 54-44.5-02, 54-44.5-03, 54-44.5-04, 54-44.5-05, and subsections 2, 3, and 4 of section
4 54-44.5-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to changing the name of the office of
5 intergovernmental assistance to the division of community services.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 20.1-02-17.1 of the North Dakota
8 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

9 3. A detailed impact analysis from the state game and fish department shall be
10 included with the acquisition proposal for board of county commissioner
11 consideration in making recommendations. The analysis by the game and fish
12 department shall include, but shall not be limited to, the recreational and wildlife
13 impacts. In addition, the county agent of the affected county or counties shall
14 prepare an impact analysis for board of county commissioner consideration which
15 shall include the fiscal, social, and agricultural impacts of the proposed acquisition.
16 The state game and fish department shall reimburse the county or counties for any
17 expenses incurred by the county agent in preparing the analysis. The analyses
18 shall also be forwarded to the ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of
19 community services which shall furnish copies to all interested state agencies and
20 political subdivisions, which agencies and political subdivisions shall have thirty
21 days to review the analyses and return their comments to the ~~office of~~
22 ~~intergovernmental assistance~~ division of community services. Upon expiration of
23 the thirty-day period, all comments received by the ~~office of intergovernmental~~
24 ~~assistance~~ division of community services shall be forwarded to the state game

1 and fish department. The state game and fish department may, after consideration
2 of such comments, file a final impact analysis with the ~~office of intergovernmental~~
3 ~~assistance~~ division of community services and the board of county commissioners.

4 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 20.1-02-18.1 of the North Dakota Century Code
5 is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **20.1-02-18.1. Federal wildlife area acquisitions - Submission to county**
7 **commissioners, opportunity for public comment, and impact analysis required.** The
8 governor, the director, or their designees, responsible under federal law for final approval of
9 land, wetland, and water acquisitions by the United States department of the interior, its
10 bureaus or agencies, for waterfowl production areas, wildlife refuges, or other wildlife or
11 waterfowl purposes, shall submit the proposed acquisitions by certified mail with return receipt
12 to the board of county commissioners of the county or counties in which the land, wetland, and
13 water areas are located for the board's recommendations.

14 The board of county commissioners of the county affected, or a designee or designees
15 of the board, shall, within twenty-one days of receipt of an acquisition proposal, physically
16 inspect the proposed acquisition areas. The board shall give public notice of the date, hour,
17 and place where the public may comment on the proposed acquisitions. The notice must be
18 published once each week for two successive weeks in the official newspaper of the county or
19 counties in which the land and water areas are located. The notice must set forth the
20 substance of the proposed action, and must include a legal description of the proposed
21 acquisitions. The board of county commissioners shall make its recommendations by certified
22 mail with return receipt within sixty days after receipt of an acquisition proposal.

23 A detailed impact analysis from the federal agency involved must be included with the
24 acquisition proposal for board of county commissioner consideration in making
25 recommendations. The analysis must include the recreational and wildlife impacts. In addition,
26 the county agent of the affected county or counties shall prepare an impact analysis for board of
27 county commissioner consideration which must include the fiscal, social, and agricultural
28 impacts of the proposed acquisitions. The department of the interior shall reimburse the county
29 or counties for any expenses incurred by the county agent in preparing the analysis. The
30 analyses must also be forwarded to the ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of
31 community services which shall furnish copies to all interested state agencies and political

1 subdivisions, which agencies and political subdivisions have thirty days to review the analyses
2 and return their comments to the ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of community
3 services. Upon expiration of the thirty-day period, all comments received by the ~~office of~~
4 ~~intergovernmental assistance~~ division of community services must be forwarded to the federal
5 agency involved and to the state official or agency responsible for final acquisition approval.
6 The federal agency may, after consideration of the comments, file a final impact analysis with
7 the governor, the board of county commissioners, and any other state official or agency
8 responsible for final acquisition approval.

9 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-01.1-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

11 **54-01.1-08. ~~Promulgation~~ Adoption of rules and regulations.** State agencies may
12 consult with the ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of community services to
13 establish regulations and procedures for implementation of the provisions of this chapter and to
14 establish such regulations and procedures necessary to assure:

- 15 1. That the payments and assistance authorized by this chapter shall be administered
16 in a manner which is fair and reasonable, and as uniform as practicable;
- 17 2. That a displaced person who makes proper application for a payment authorized
18 by this chapter shall be paid promptly after a move or, in hardship cases, be paid in
19 advance; and
- 20 3. That any displaced person aggrieved by a determination as to eligibility for a
21 payment, or as to the amount of a payment, may have the application reviewed by
22 the head or governing body of the state agency.

23 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-21.3-04.1 of the 1997 Supplement to the
24 North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

25 **54-21.3-04.1. Accessibility standards.** Notwithstanding section 54-21.3-04, every
26 building or facility subject to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [Pub. L.
27 101-336; 104 Stat. 327] must conform to the accessibility standards of the Americans with
28 Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities as contained in the appendix
29 to title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, part 36 [28 CFR 36]. State and political subdivision
30 entities may not claim the exceptions to the requirement that elevators be installed in certain
31 buildings as those exceptions are stated in exception 1 to section 4.1.3(5) and in section

1 4.1.6(1)(k)(i) in the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and
2 Facilities found in the appendix to 28 CFR 36. A structural change to an existing state or
3 political subdivision building or facility is not required if another method is effective in achieving
4 compliance with regulations adopted under Public Law 101-336. For public accommodations,
5 an alternative to a structural change in existing buildings or facilities is permitted only after it has
6 been documented, in accordance with regulations adopted under Public Law 101-336, that a
7 particular structural change is not readily achievable. A state agency or the governing body of a
8 political subdivision shall require from any person preparing plans and specifications for a
9 building or facility subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [Pub. L. 101-336; 104
10 Stat. 327], a statement that the plans and specifications are, in the professional judgment of
11 that person, in conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines for
12 Buildings and Facilities found in the appendix to 28 CFR 36, subject to the exception stated in
13 this section. A statement of conformance must be submitted to the ~~office of intergovernmental~~
14 ~~assistance~~ division of community services for recording.

15 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Subsections 3 and 4 of section 54-44.5-01 of the 1997
16 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

17 3. "Director" means the director of the ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division
18 of community services.

19 4. ~~"Office"~~ "Division" means the ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of
20 community services.

21 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-44.5-02 of the 1997 Supplement to the North
22 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

23 **54-44.5-02. ~~Office of intergovernmental assistance~~ Division of community**
24 **services - Creation.** The ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of community
25 services is established in the office of management and budget to provide technical assistance
26 to local governments, state agencies, and the executive branch in the area of community and
27 rural planning and development, policy research and development, and grant program
28 implementation. The director of the office of management and budget shall appoint a director of
29 the ~~office~~ division upon the basis of education and experience. The position of director is not a
30 classified position and the director shall serve at the pleasure of the director of the office of
31 management and budget. The director of the ~~office~~ division may employ such other

1 professional, technical, and clerical persons as may be necessary and may fix their
2 compensation within the limits of legislative appropriation. All personnel within the ~~office~~
3 division must be allowed their actual and necessary travel expenses at the same rate as for
4 other employees of the state.

5 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-44.5-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **54-44.5-03. Powers and duties of the director.** The director shall direct and
8 supervise, with the approval of the director of the office of management and budget, all the
9 administrative and technical activities of the ~~office~~ division.

10 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-44.5-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11 amended and reenacted as follows:

12 **54-44.5-04. ~~Office of intergovernmental assistance~~ Division of community**
13 **services - Powers and duties.** The ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of
14 community services shall:

- 15 1. Provide relevant information on pertinent topics and issues which relate to public
16 policy development, interpretation, modification, and implementation.
- 17 2. Research, analyze, and recommend public policy for the office of management and
18 budget and the executive office.
- 19 3. Coordinate public policy implementation within the state. Powers conferred upon
20 departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the state, counties, townships, or
21 cities by any existing state or local law may not be derogated by this duty.
- 22 4. Develop state energy conservation policy and manage federal energy conservation
23 program activities between all levels of the public and private sectors regarding the
24 prudent and efficient use of energy resources.
- 25 5. Develop, implement, and administer federal categorical and block grant programs
26 assigned to the ~~office~~ division.
- 27 6. Advise, coordinate, and assist cities, political subdivisions, and the state in all
28 phases of state and local planning for the physical development of the state.
- 29 7. Render financial assistance to any government planning agency within federal law
30 or regulation.

1 8. Advise, consult, coordinate, assist, and contract with or on behalf of the various
2 planning agencies in developing and harmonizing planning activities of the state.

3 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-44.5-05 of the 1997 Supplement to the North
4 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **54-44.5-05. Continuing appropriation.** There is hereby appropriated as a standing
6 and continuing appropriation to the ~~office of intergovernmental assistance~~ division of
7 community services for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter, including the
8 administration of such provisions, all moneys returned as repayments of federal or other funds
9 granted under the community development loan fund, and all earnings from the investment of
10 such moneys, which may be received from time to time by the ~~office~~ division. Administrative
11 expenses may only be charged against such moneys to the extent permitted by federal law or
12 regulations.

13 **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Subsections 2, 3, and 4 of section 54-44.5-07 of the
14 1997 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

15 2. The ~~office~~ division shall distribute the federal community services block grant funds
16 received under the federal Community Service Block Grant Act [Pub. L. 97-35; 95
17 Stat. 511; 42 U.S.C. 9903] and shall allocate the funds as follows:

18 a. At least ninety percent must be allocated to community action agencies;

19 b. The greater of fifty-five thousand dollars or five percent may be allocated for
20 state administrative expenses; and

21 c. Not more than five percent may be allocated for state discretionary projects.

22 3. Each community action agency, in accordance with procedures established by the
23 ~~office~~ division, is entitled to receive a portion of available federal Community
24 Services Block Grant Act [Pub. L. 97-35; 95 Stat. 511; 42 U.S.C. 9903] funds
25 based on that agency's poverty population relative to the state's total poverty
26 population. The ~~office~~ division shall determine poverty levels using criteria
27 established by the United States office of management and budget.

28 4. Each community action agency is governed by procedures established by the
29 ~~office~~ division as it relates to the community services block grant program.