

**HOUSE BILL NO.**

Introduced by

Representative Glassheim

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 54-34.3-01, 54-34.3-04, and 54-40.1-05 of the  
2 North Dakota Century Code, relating to goals of the department of economic development and  
3 finance and to reports of regional planning councils.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-34.3-01 of the 1999 Supplement to the North  
6 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **54-34.3-01. Department of economic development and finance established -**

8 **Mission.** ~~The North Dakota department of economic development and finance is established~~  
9 ~~to assume the functions, powers, and duties of the economic development commission with~~  
10 ~~respect to programs and other efforts intended to enhance the economic development of the~~  
11 ~~state.~~ The mission of the department is to develop strategies and programs to:

- 12 1. Facilitate the growth, diversification, and expansion of existing enterprises and the  
13 attraction and creation of new wealth-generating enterprises in the state;
- 14 2. Promote economic diversification and innovation within the basic industries and  
15 economic sectors of this state, including strategies and programs designed to  
16 specialize and focus the state's economy on advanced agriculture and food  
17 processing, energy byproduct development, export services and tourism, and  
18 advanced manufacturing;
- 19 3. Promote increased productivity and value-added products, processes, and  
20 services in the state, and the export of those goods and services by North Dakota  
21 enterprises to the nation and to the world;
- 22 4. Maintain and revitalize economically depressed rural areas by working in close  
23 collaboration with local communities and by encouraging communities to enter into

cooperative relationships for more efficient and effective education, health care, government service, and infrastructure maintenance;

5. Forge a supportive partnership with the Bank of North Dakota, the board of higher education and the state's institutions of higher education, regional planning councils, local development organizations and authorities, the Myron G. Nelson Fund, Incorporated, the state's nonprofit development corporations, and other appropriate private and public sector organizations in achieving the economic goals of the state; ~~and~~

6. Identify those statutes, administrative rules, and policies that impede the attraction, creation, and expansion of businesses and job creation in this state-; and

7. Increase, on a continuing basis, the state's export sector, population base, average per capita income, manufacturing sector, full-time employment, gross state product, number of patents, and number of workers in high-technology employment.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-34.3-04 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**54-34.3-04. Department director - Appointment - Compensation - Duties.** A

director shall supervise and control the department. The governor shall appoint as director a person who is qualified by training, knowledge, and experience that is necessary to ensure a high degree of professional competency in carrying out the duties of the director as enumerated in this section. The director shall serve at the will of the governor and shall receive a salary set by the governor within the limits of legislative appropriations. The director shall:

1. Manage the internal operations of the department ~~and~~, establish policies that promote the orderly and efficient administration of the department, and submit to the governor a department budget necessary to attain the goals required under subsection 7 of section 54-34.3-01;

2. Appoint personnel as may be determined necessary to carry out sections 54-34.3-01 through 54-34.3-08 and fix their compensation within the limits of legislative appropriations;

- 1           3. Assume central responsibility to develop, implement, and coordinate within state  
2           government a comprehensive program of economic development consistent with  
3           the mission of the department;
- 4           4. Coordinate that program of economic development with all other appropriate state  
5           and local government departments, agencies, institutions, and organizations that  
6           perform research, develop and administer programs, gather statistics, or perform  
7           other functions relating to economic development, and those government entities  
8           shall advise, cooperate, and provide reasonable assistance to the director in  
9           carrying out sections 54-34.3-01 through 54-34.3-08;
- 10          5. Advise, and cooperate with, departments and agencies of the federal government  
11          and of other states, private business and agricultural organizations and  
12          associations, research institutions, and any individual or other private or public  
13          entity, and call upon those entities or individuals for consultation and assistance in  
14          their respective fields of endeavor or interest in order that the department and the  
15          state may benefit from up-to-date technical advice, information, and assistance;
- 16          6. Cooperate with individuals and both public and private entities, including the state's  
17          congressional delegation, in identifying and pursuing potential sources of funding  
18          and to receive those funds to be expended for purposes consistent with sections  
19          54-34.3-01 through 54-34.3-08;
- 20          7. Have authority to enter into contracts upon terms and conditions as determined by  
21          the director to be reasonable and to effectuate the purposes of sections 54-34.3-01  
22          through 54-34.3-08;
- 23          8. Report at least annually to an interim committee designated by the legislative  
24          council on performance of all divisions of the department of economic development  
25          and finance. The report must include the amount of success and satisfaction the  
26          department of economic development and finance has in meeting business-client,  
27          economic-developer, and community-client needs and expectations. ~~The report~~  
28          ~~must also include;~~ the specific goals and strategies being used by the department  
29          to attain the goals of subsection 7 of section 54-34.3-01; and a comparison of  
30          dollars spent to the economic benefits created of all programs administered or  
31          supervised by the director; and

9. Have authority to do any and all other things necessary and proper to carry out sections 54-34.3-01 through 54-34.3-08.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-40.1-05 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**54-40.1-05. Reports.** Each regional council shall prepare an annual report within one hundred twenty days after the end of each fiscal year. The regional council shall submit copies of the report to the participating units of general local government, to the governor or the governor's designee, and to members of the legislative assembly in each region. To the extent practicable, the report must include regional economic development statistics and indicators, information regarding projects completed or in progress, and sources of project funding.