

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1303
(Representatives Monson, Gulleson, Nicholas, Wald)
(Senators Kelsh, Traynor)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 26.1-13 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to county mutual insurance companies; and to amend and reenact sections 26.1-13-01 and 26.1-13-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to county mutual insurance companies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 26.1-13-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

26.1-13-01. County mutual insurance company - Organization. A corporation for mutual insurance may be formed in accordance with this chapter by any number of persons, not less than fifty, residing in not more than ~~twenty~~ thirty counties in this state, who collectively own property of not less than one hundred thousand dollars in value which they desire to insure; or any number of persons, not less than twenty-five, residing in any one county in this state, who collectively own property of not less than twenty-five thousand dollars in value which they desire to insure. A county mutual insurance company organized under this chapter shall maintain a surplus of at least fifty thousand dollars.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 26.1-13-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

26.1-13-02. Articles of incorporation - Territory of operation - Insurance applications required. Persons desiring to form a county mutual insurance company shall submit to the commissioner a description of the territory of operation and shall submit to the commissioner and to the attorney general the articles of incorporation of the proposed company. The territory of operation is subject to the review and approval of the commissioner. An existing county mutual insurance company that desires to expand its territory of operation shall submit a description of the current territory of operation and proposed territory of operation to the commissioner for review and approval. If merger of two or more county mutual insurance companies is proposed, the commissioner shall determine the territory of operation of the merged company. Upon a showing of good cause, the territory of operations of the merged company may exceed thirty counties. If the articles are found to comply with this chapter, the commissioner shall approve the articles and the articles must be filed in the office of the secretary of state and a certified copy must be filed with the commissioner. The articles must be signed by the number of persons required to incorporate the company and must be accompanied by sufficient evidence of the execution of bona fide applications for insurance to the number and in the amount stated in section 26.1-13-01. The articles of incorporation must set forth:

1. The name of the company.
2. The name of the city in or near which the business office of the company is to be located.
3. The intended duration of the company, which is perpetual.

SECTION 3. A new section to chapter 26.1-13 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

County mutual insurance company - Reports to commissioner. Each county mutual insurance company shall file an annual report with the commissioner no later than March first of each year which must be verified by at least two principal officers of the company and which must cover the preceding calendar year. The commissioner may require additional reports as are deemed necessary and appropriate to enable the commissioner to carry out the commissioner's duties under this chapter.

The reports must be on forms prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner may also require a company that operates in more than twenty counties to file audited financial statements as deemed necessary.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1303.

House Vote: Yeas 97 Nays 0 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 44 Nays 0 Absent 5

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State