

HOUSE BILL NO. 1375

Introduced by

Representatives Ekstrom, Froseth, Pollert

Senators O'Connell, Syverson, Warner

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to creation of the beginning again North Dakota pilot program by which
3 the department of commerce develops a data base of skills and other assets of three North
4 Dakota communities; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide an expiration date.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 created and enacted as follows:

8 **Beginning again North Dakota pilot program - Report to legislative council -**
9 **Continuing appropriation.**

- 10 1. The department shall implement and administer a beginning again North Dakota
11 pilot program. The purpose of the program is to develop a data base of skills and
12 other assets of communities and residents to be used to advance the internal and
13 external attitude and image of this state and the communities in this state. The
14 department shall implement this program in one city with a population of not more
15 than five hundred, one city with a population of more than five hundred but not
16 more than one thousand five hundred, and one city with a population of more than
17 one thousand five hundred and not more than three thousand.
- 18 2. The department shall assemble state and local asset data from a broad range of
19 sources. The sources for data may include the department, Bank of North Dakota,
20 game and fish department, state historical society, Indian affairs commission, job
21 service North Dakota, parks and recreation department, department of public
22 instruction, university system, workforce safety and insurance, and state and local
23 public or private entities. The nature of the data regarding skills and other assets
24 may cover a broad range of information that may be valuable to advance the

1 attitude or image of the state and communities in the state. The data may include
2 natural resources, real estate, educational resources, cultural resources, vocational
3 resources, financial resources, and infrastructure resources.

4 3. The department shall use the information assembled in the data base to assist in
5 strategic plans for development. Additionally, the department may use the
6 information in the data base to assist local developers in strategic plans for
7 development.

8 4. The department may contract with a public or private third party to provide any or
9 all of the services necessary to implement and administer the program. The
10 department may solicit support and contributions from public and private sources
11 for the purpose of furthering the program. The department shall deposit in a
12 special account in the general fund of the state treasury all funds collected under
13 this subsection. All funds deposited under this section are appropriated to the
14 department on a continuing basis for the purpose of furthering the program.

15 5. During the 2007-08 interim, the commissioner shall provide a report to the
16 legislative council regarding the implementation of the program, any successes
17 and failures of the program, and whether the program should be continued or be
18 continued and expanded to additional communities.

19 **SECTION 2. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through July 31, 2009, and
20 after that date is ineffective.