

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

SENATE BILL NO. 2361
(Senators Dever, Erbele, Mathern)
(Representatives L. Meier, Sandvig, Sitte)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 14-03-22 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to marriage license fees; and to provide for a legislative council study.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 14-03-22 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

14-03-22. Marriage license fee - Supplemental fee - Fee for marriage ceremony - Duties of officers.

1. For the issuance and filing of a marriage license, the recorder, unless the board of county commissioners designates a different official, shall collect ~~the sum~~ a fee of six up to thirty dollars from the party applying for the license. ~~The~~
2. In addition to the license fee provided for in subsection 1, the recorder, or designated official, shall ~~also~~ collect from the applicant a supplemental fee of ~~twenty-nine~~ thirty-five dollars for aid to victims of domestic violence through the domestic violence prevention fund in accordance with chapter 14-07.1.
3. For performing a marriage ceremony during regular courthouse hours, the recorder, or designated official, shall collect a fee of thirty dollars which is to be retained by the county. If the marriage ceremony is performed at a time other than during regular courthouse hours, the recorder, or designated official, may collect and retain a fee in an amount to be determined by the recorder, or designated official.
4. Except as provided in this section, all collected fees must be deposited monthly with the county treasurer. The county treasurer shall forward the amount represented by supplemental fees to the state treasurer by the fifteenth of each month for crediting to the domestic violence prevention fund.
5. The recorder, or designated official, shall prepare a copy of the license and certificate and transmit them to the registrar of vital statistics who shall record them in a book of records kept in the registrar's office for that purpose. The registrar shall index the records and upon request shall issue certified copies of the recorded license and certificate for a one dollar fee. The registrar shall keep an accurate account of these fees and shall turn them over to the state treasurer by the fifteenth of each month for crediting to the general fund.

SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - MARRIAGE LAWS. The legislative council shall consider studying, during the 2005-06 interim, the state's marriage laws and methods for strengthening the institution of marriage in the state, including premarital requirements, such as marital education and counseling, waiting periods, and marital blood tests; the availability of marriage counseling and parenting education in the state; and the implementation of predivorce requirements, such as divorce-effects education. The legislative council shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixtieth legislative assembly.

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-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2361.

Senate Vote: Yeas 35 Nays 8 Absent 4

House Vote: Yeas 68 Nays 20 Absent 6

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2005,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State