

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with House Amendments**

Fifty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2281**

Introduced by

Senators Klein, Grindberg, Taylor

Representatives Belter, Mueller, Pollert

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new subsection to section 57-38.6-03 of the North  
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to agricultural business investment income tax credits; to amend  
3 and reenact sections 57-38.6-01, 57-38.6-02, 57-38.6-03, and 57-38.6-04 of the North Dakota  
4 Century Code, relating to agricultural business investment income tax credits; and to provide an  
5 effective date.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-38.6-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **57-38.6-01. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
10 requires:

- 11 1. "Agricultural commodity processing facility" means a facility that through  
12 processing involving the employment of knowledge and labor adds value to an  
13 agricultural commodity capable of being raised in this state.
- 14 2. "Director" means the director of the department of commerce division of economic  
15 development and finance.
- 16 3. "Qualified business" means a cooperative, corporation, partnership, or limited  
17 liability company that:
  - 18 a. Is incorporated or organized in this state after December 31, 2000, for the  
19 primary purpose of processing and marketing agricultural commodities  
20 capable of being raised in this state;
  - 21 b. ~~Is~~ Has been certified by the securities commissioner to be in compliance with  
22 ~~the requirements for filings with the securities commissioner~~ under the  
23 securities laws of this state;

- 1 c. Has an agricultural commodity processing facility, or intends to locate one, in  
2 this state; and
- 3 d. ~~Has a majority of its ownership interests owned by producers of unprocessed~~  
4 ~~agricultural commodities~~ Is among the first ten businesses that meets the  
5 requirements of this subsection, but not a business that was previously  
6 certified as a qualified business under chapter 57-38.5.
- 7 4. "Taxpayer" means an individual, estate, ~~or~~ trust, corporation, partnership, or  
8 limited liability company.

9 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-38.6-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

11 **57-38.6-02. Certification - Investment reporting by qualified businesses.** The  
12 director shall certify whether a business that has requested to become a qualified business  
13 meets the requirements of subsection 3 of section 57-38.6-01. The director shall establish the  
14 necessary forms and procedures for certifying qualified businesses. The director is not  
15 required to recertify a business as a qualified business under this chapter if the business was  
16 previously certified by the director as a qualified business under chapter 57-38.5.

17 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-38.6-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
18 amended and reenacted as follows:

19 **57-38.6-03. Agricultural business investment tax credit.** If a taxpayer makes a  
20 qualified investment in a qualified business, the taxpayer is entitled to a credit against state  
21 income tax liability as determined under section 57-38-29, ~~57-38-30,~~ or 57-38-30.3. The  
22 amount of the credit to which a taxpayer is entitled is thirty percent of the amount invested by  
23 the taxpayer in qualified businesses during the taxable year, subject to the following:

- 24 1. The ~~aggregate maximum~~ annual investment for which credit a taxpayer may  
25 obtain ~~a tax credit~~ under this section is ~~not more than twenty~~ twenty five thousand dollars  
26 and no taxpayer may obtain more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars in credits  
27 under this section over any combination of taxable years. This subsection may not  
28 be interpreted to limit additional investment by a taxpayer for which that taxpayer is  
29 not applying for a credit.
- 30 2. In any taxable year, a taxpayer may claim no more than fifty percent of the credit  
31 under this section which is attributable to qualified investments in a single taxable

- 1           year. The amount of the credit allowed under this section for any taxable year may  
2           not exceed fifty percent of the taxpayer's tax liability as otherwise determined  
3           under chapter 57-38.
- 4           3. Any amount of credit under this section not allowed because of the limitations in  
5           this section may be carried forward for up to ~~fifteen~~ five taxable years after the  
6           taxable year in which the investment was made.
- 7           4. A partnership, subchapter S corporation, limited liability company that for tax  
8           purposes is treated like a partnership, or any other passthrough entity that invests  
9           in a qualified business must be considered to be the taxpayer for purposes of the  
10          investment limitations in this section and, except for the tax liability limitation under  
11          subsection 2 of this section, the amount of the credit allowed with respect to a  
12          ~~partnership's~~ the passthrough entity's investment in a qualified business must be  
13          determined at the ~~partnership~~ passthrough entity level. The amount of the total  
14          credit determined at the ~~partnership~~ passthrough entity level must be allowed to  
15          the ~~partners, limited to individuals, estates, and trusts~~ passthrough entity's owners,  
16          in proportion to their respective ownership interests in the ~~partnership~~ passthrough  
17          entity.
- 18          5. The investment must be at risk in the business. A qualified investment must be in  
19          the form of a purchase of ownership interests or the right to receive payment of  
20          dividends from the business. An investment for which a credit is received under  
21          this section must remain in the business for at least three years. An investment  
22          placed in escrow does not qualify for the credit.
- 23          6. The entire amount of an investment for which a credit is claimed under this section  
24          must be expended by the qualified business for plant, equipment, research and  
25          development, marketing and sales activity, or working capital for the qualified  
26          business.
- 27          7. The tax commissioner may disallow any credit otherwise allowed under this  
28          section if any representation by a business in the application for certification as a  
29          qualified business proves to be false or if the taxpayer or qualified business fails to  
30          satisfy any conditions under this section or any conditions consistent with this  
31          section otherwise determined by the tax commissioner. The amount of any credit

1 disallowed by the tax commissioner that reduced the taxpayer's income tax liability  
2 for any or all applicable tax years, plus penalty and interest provided under section  
3 57-38-45, must be paid by the taxpayer.

4 **SECTION 4.** A new subsection to section 57-38.6-03 of the North Dakota Century  
5 Code is created and enacted as follows:

6 A taxpayer whose investment in an agricultural commodity processing facility was  
7 made before January 1, 2005, and did not qualify for the tax credit because of the  
8 two million five hundred thousand dollar credit limitation in section 57-38.5-02, is  
9 entitled to a credit against state income tax liability under section 57-38-29 or  
10 57-38-30.3 in the amount of thirty percent of the amount invested by the taxpayer  
11 in a qualified business, subject to the following:

12 a. The aggregate investment for which a taxpayer may obtain a credit under this  
13 subsection is not less than five thousand dollars and not more than two  
14 hundred fifty thousand dollars.

15 b. In any taxable year, a taxpayer may claim no more than one-fourth of the  
16 credit under this subsection which is attributable to an investment made  
17 before January 1, 2005.

18 c. Any amount of credit under this subsection not allowed because of the  
19 limitations in this section may be carried forward for up to four taxable years  
20 after the taxable year in which the investment was made.

21 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-38.6-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
22 amended and reenacted as follows:

23 **57-38.6-04. Taxable year for agricultural business investment tax credit.** The tax  
24 credit under section 57-38.6-03 accrues to the taxpayer for the taxable year in which ~~full~~  
25 ~~consideration~~ for the investment in the qualified business was received by the qualified  
26 business.

27 **SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective for any business  
28 certified by the director after December 31, 2004. Sections 2, 3, and 5 of this Act are effective  
29 for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2004. Section 4 of this Act is effective for tax  
30 year 2004 and is thereafter ineffective, except any unused credit may be carried forward as  
31 provided in section 4 of this Act.