

**SENATE BILL NO. 2311**

Introduced by

Senators J. Lee, Brown

Representatives Hawken, Thoreson

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 54-02-01 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to unlawful use of the great seal.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 2 of section 54-02-01 of the North Dakota  
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 6 2. It is a class B misdemeanor for any person to:
- 7 a. Place or cause to be placed the great seal, or any reproduction of the great  
8 seal, on any political badge, button, insignia, pamphlet, folder, display card,  
9 sign, poster, billboard, or on any other public advertisement, or to otherwise  
10 use the great seal for any political purpose, as defined in section 16.1-10-02.
  - 11 b. Place or cause to be placed on the great seal, or any reproduction thereof,  
12 any advertisement.
  - 13 c. Expose the great seal, or any reproduction thereof, to public view with any  
14 advertisement attached thereto.
  - 15 d. Utilize the great seal, or a copy or reproduction thereof, for any commercial  
16 purpose or except as provided in subsection 1, to utilize or place a copy or  
17 reproduction of the great seal on any stationery or business calling card of  
18 any person.

19 As used in this subsection, "advertisement" means any printed matter, device,  
20 picture, or symbol, no matter how presented to the senses, which informs the  
21 public that a good or service is available; and "commercial purpose" means with  
22 intent to produce a pecuniary gain through sale of a good or service.

23 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the secretary of state may grant a  
24 written request by a private vendor to reproduce official state forms and

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1 documents, containing a reproduction of the great seal, for resale to persons  
2 intending to submit the forms or documents to any state entity in the regular course  
3 of business. The secretary of state may also grant a written request by a  
4 publisher, educational institution, or author to reproduce the great seal in any  
5 research, reference, or educational publication containing a compilation of the  
6 great seals of other states.