

Introduced by

Representatives Brandenburg, Headland, Pollert, Silbernagel

Senators Dotzenrod, Erbele, Wanzek

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for agriculture development impact grants.

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

3 **SECTION 1.**

4 **Definitions.**

5 As used in this Act:

6 1. "Agriculture development" means farming, ranching, other agricultural commodity
7 production, and industries directly related to the processing of agriculture products,
8 including fertilizer plants, food processing facilities, and other agriculturally related
9 value-added processes.

10 2. "Impacted political subdivision" means a county, city, school district, township, or other
11 taxing district empowered by law to levy taxes, and which demonstrates actual or
12 anticipated extraordinary expenditures caused by agriculture development.

13 **SECTION 2.**

14 **Agriculture impact grant fund.**

15 There is created in the state treasury a special fund known as the agriculture impact grant
16 fund. Moneys in the fund must be used for grant awards as provided by law and as
17 appropriated by the legislative assembly, to be distributed by the department of transportation to
18 impacted political subdivisions.

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 **Agriculture impact grant advisory committee.**

- 21 1. The agriculture impact grant advisory committee consists of:
 - 22 a. The director of the department of transportation;
 - 23 b. The commissioner of commerce or the commissioner's designee;
 - 24 c. One individual representing the North Dakota corn growers association;

- 1 d. One individual representing the North Dakota grain growers association; and
- 2 e. One individual representing the North Dakota soybean growers association.
- 3 2. The director of the department of transportation is chairman of the committee.
- 4 3. The committee must meet at the call of the director to review requests for funding from
- 5 the agriculture impact grant fund.
- 6 4. The committee shall make recommendations to the department of transportation for
- 7 grant awards. The director shall provide staff services to the committee.

8 **SECTION 4.**

9 **Agriculture impact grant program.**

10 The department of transportation shall establish and administer an agriculture impact grant
11 program to provide grants to impacted political subdivisions. The department of transportation
12 shall:

- 13 1. Develop a plan for awarding and disbursing grants to impacted political subdivisions to
14 address the initial impacts, including infrastructure and basic government services,
15 caused by agriculture development. Services or programs to alleviate sociological
16 impacts as well as services or facilities to meet secondary impacts are not eligible for
17 the grant funding provided in this chapter.
- 18 2. Establish procedures and provide proper forms to political subdivisions for grant
19 applications as provided in this chapter.
- 20 3. Make grant disbursements based on the recommendations of the agriculture impact
21 grant advisory committee, at least once each fiscal year, to impacted political
22 subdivisions as provided in this chapter and within the limits of legislative
23 appropriations. In determining the amounts to be awarded and disbursed to impacted
24 political subdivisions, consideration must be given to identified needs and revenue
25 received by each impacted political subdivision from taxes or fund distribution formulas
26 provided by law.