

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

SENATE BILL NO. 2254
(Senators J. Roers, Burckhard, Larson)
(Representatives M. Johnson, Pyle)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 40-51.2-05 and section 40-51.2-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to notice requirements for annexation and exclusion.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 40-51.2-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. The governing body may not take final action on a petition presented by owners and qualified electors until the petitioners have given notice of presentation of the petition by one publication in the official newspaper of the city as provided by section 40-01-09 and the governing body has mailed at least sevenfifteen days before the presentation, by certified mail, a notice of the time and place of consideration of the petition to the owner of each parcel of real property within the area described in the petition at the person's last-known mailing address. The notice is not required to be sent to any owner of real property who signed a petition pursuant to section 40-51.2-03 or 40-51.2-04. At the same time, the governing body of the city also shall mail, by certified mail, the notice of the time and place of consideration of the petition to the governing body of each city, county, or township directly affected by the land area petitioned to be annexed.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 40-51.2-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

40-51.2-07. Annexation by resolution of city.

1. The governing body of any city may adopt a resolution to annex contiguous or adjacent territory as follows:
 - a. The governing body of the city shall adopt a resolution describing the property to be annexed. Within seven days of the adoption of a resolution under this subdivision, the governing body shall mail, by certified mail, a copy of the resolution to the owner of each parcel of real property within the area to be annexed at the person's last-known mailing address.
 - b. The governing body of the city shall publish the resolution and a notice of the time and place the governing body will meet to hear and determine the sufficiency of any written protests against the proposed annexation in the official newspaper once each week for two consecutive weeks. ~~The~~At least fifteen days before the meeting, the governing body of the city shall mail ~~at least seven days before the meeting,~~ by certified mail, a notice to the owner of each parcel of real property within the area to be annexed at the person's last-known mailing address. The notice must inform landowners of the resolution, the time and place of hearing, and the requirement that protests must be filed in writing. The owners of any real property within the territory proposed to be annexed may file written protests with the city auditor protesting against the proposed annexation within thirty days of the first publication of the resolution ~~may file written protests with the city auditor protesting against the proposed annexation.~~ The governing body of the city also shall mail at least seven days before the meeting, by certified mail, the notice of the time and place of the hearing to the governing body of each city, county, or township directly affected by the land area proposed to be annexed. No state-owned property may be

annexed without the written consent of the state agency or department having control of the property. The governing body of the city, at its next meeting after the expiration of the time for filing the protests, shall hear and determine the sufficiency of the protests.

- c. In the absence of protests filed by the owners of more than one-fourth of the territory proposed to be annexed as of the date of the adoption of the resolution, the territory described in the resolution becomes a part of the city. When a copy of the resolution and an accurate map of the annexed area, certified by the executive officer of the city, are filed and recorded with the county recorder, the annexation becomes effective. Annexation is effective for the purpose of general taxation on and after the first day of the next January. However, the city shall continue to classify as agricultural lands for tax purposes all lands in the annexed area which were classified as agricultural lands immediately before the annexation proceedings until those lands are put to another use.
2. If the owners of one-fourth or more of the territory proposed to be annexed protest, or if a city that has extraterritorial zoning or subdivision regulation authority over the area petitioned to be annexed protests, the city may either stop its pursuit of the annexation or submit the matter to a committee for mediation as provided in section 40-51.2-07.1.

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 Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2254.

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

House Vote: Yeas 89 Nays 3 Absent 1

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2021,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State