

SENATE BILL NO. 2171

Introduced by

Senators Klein, Luick, Wanzek, Wardner

Representatives D. Johnson, Monson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the transfer of the international business and trade office from the
3 department of commerce to the agriculture commissioner; to repeal section 54-60-16 of the
4 North Dakota Century Code, relating to the international business and trade office; to provide a
5 continuing appropriation; and to provide an appropriation.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
8 and enacted as follows:

9 **International business and trade office - Advisory board - Continuing appropriation.**

10 1. The commissioner shall administer the international business and trade office. The
11 purpose of the office is to assist North Dakota businesses expand exports to
12 international markets by:

13 a. Advocating for exporters;

14 b. Offering export educational opportunities to North Dakota businesses;

15 c. Researching and raising awareness of export opportunities, issues, and
16 challenges impacting North Dakota businesses;

17 d. Assisting North Dakota businesses in identifying, developing, and cultivating
18 international markets for products; and

19 e. Organizing and carrying out trade missions that seek to facilitate contact and
20 communication between North Dakota businesses and international markets.

21 2. The commissioner may designate a nonprofit corporation incorporated in this state
22 which has the primary purpose of assisting North Dakota exporters or contract with a
23 third party for the provision of services for the international business and trade office. If
24 the commissioner designates a nonprofit corporation or contracts with a third party

1 under this subsection, all data and databases collected and created by the third party
2 in performing services for the office are the property of the department and the third
3 party.

4 3. The commissioner may seek and accept any gift, grant, or donation of funds, property,
5 services, or other assistance from public or private sources for the purpose of
6 furthering the objectives of the international business and trade office. Any funds
7 accepted under this subsection are appropriated to the commissioner on a continuing
8 basis.

9 4. The commissioner may establish an international business and trade office advisory
10 board with which the commissioner may consult in administering the international
11 business and trade office. Each member of the advisory board is entitled to receive
12 per diem compensation at a rate established by the director not exceeding sixty-two
13 dollars and fifty cents and reimbursement of expenses as provided by law for state
14 officers, while attending meetings or performing duties directly related to board
15 membership, except that per diem compensation under this section may not be paid to
16 any member who receives compensation or salary as a regular state employee or
17 official.

18 **SECTION 2. REPEAL.** Section 54-60-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

19 **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
20 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,600,000, or so much of the
21 sum as may be necessary, to the department of agriculture for the purpose of administering the
22 international business and trade office, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending
23 June 30, 2023.