Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1397

Introduced by

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Representatives Pollert, Louser

Senators Klein, Wardner

- 1 A BILL for an Act to establish a legislative management redistricting committee, to provide for
- 2 the implementation of a legislative redistricting plan, to exempt drafts of redistricting plans from
- 3 open records requirements, and to provide for a special legislative session; to provide an
- 4 expiration date; and to declare an emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

6 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE - OPEN 7 RECORDS EXEMPTION - SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

- 1. The chairman of the legislative management shall appoint a committee to develop a legislative redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election. The committee must consist of an equal number of members from the senate and the house of representatives appointed by the chairman of the legislative management.
- 2. The committee shall ensure any legislative redistricting plan submitted to the legislative assembly for consideration must be of compact and contiguous territory and conform to all constitutional requirements with respect to population equality. The committee may adopt additional constitutionally recognized redistricting guidelines and principles to implement in preparing a legislative redistricting plan for submission to the legislative assembly.
- 3. The committee shall submit a redistricting plan and legislation to implement the plan to the legislative management by October 31, 2021.
 - 4. A draft of the legislative redistricting plan created by the legislative council or a member of the legislative assembly is an exempt record as defined in section 44-04-17.1 until presented or distributed at a meeting of the legislative management or the legislative assembly. Any version of a redistricting plan created before the

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- 1 completion of the plan is an exempt record regardless of whether the completed plan is presented or distributed subsequently at a meeting.
 - 5. The chairman of the legislative management shall request the governor to call a special session of the legislative assembly pursuant to section 7 of article V of the Constitution of North Dakota to allow the legislative assembly to adopt a redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election and to address any other issue that may be necessary.
- 8 **SECTION 2. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through July 31, 2022, and after that 9 date is ineffective.
- 10 **SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

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