

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2289

Page 2, line 3, after "...programs." add "The committee shall develop an understanding of the financial burden of plugging and reclaiming oil locations to prevent a possible burden to the state's taxpayers and landowners."

Page 2, line 6, after "...marketing," replace "distribution, and use of energy" with "distribution, use of energy and retirement of wells including plugging and reclamation."

Page 2, line 6, after "...energy." add a new section 2:

"SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY – CONSIDERATION OF REGULATORY MODELS FOR ADDRESSING ORPHANED AND ABANDONED WELL RECLAMATION

In conjunction with development of this policy, during the 2023-24 interim, the Legislative Management shall study regulatory mechanisms used in other states in the United States of America and those used in Canada to address the reclamation of orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells, including but not limited to regulations addressing transfers of wells between operators, bonding and bonding amounts, use of temporary abandonment status, taxpayer funded mechanisms such as the Federal CARES Act or Abandoned Well Fund, and other ways to address reclamation of orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells before they become the liability of the State of North Dakota and its landowners.