Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1088

Introduced by

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Representatives Jacobs, Kempenich, Sabby Senators Krauter, Heitkamp

- 1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 4-22-22 of the North Dakota Century Code,
- 2 relating to the compensation of soil conservation district supervisors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 4-22-22 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-22-22. Supervisors - Terms of office - Vacancies - Removal - Compensation -**Expenses.** At the general election to be held in 1972, three district supervisors must be elected. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes is elected for a six-year term; the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes is elected for a four-year term; and the candidate receiving the third highest number of votes is elected for a two-year term. At each succeeding general election, one supervisor must be elected for a term of six years, or until the successor is duly elected and qualified, to each expiring or vacant term. In newly formed districts, three supervisors must be elected at the first general election following the district's organization. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes is elected for a six-year term; the candidate receiving the second highest number of votes is elected for a four-year term; and the candidate receiving the third highest number of votes is elected for a two-year term. At each succeeding general election, one supervisor must be elected for a term of six years, or until the successor is duly elected and qualified, to each expiring or vacant term. The county auditor of the county or counties in which the district lies shall return to the secretary of state within fifteen days following any general election a certified abstract of the votes cast in the county at such the election for each candidate for district supervisor. At the time that the county auditor transmits the certified abstract of the votes cast for each candidate, the county auditor shall file with the secretary of state a certificate showing the name and address of each candidate.

In order to be eligible for election to the office of supervisor, candidates must be land occupiers and physically living in the district. Candidates must be elected on a nonpartisan ballot. In case the office of any supervisor, for any reason, becomes vacant, the remaining members of the board of supervisors shall, with the advice and consent of the state committee, fill the vacancy by appointment. If vacancies occur in the office of two supervisors, the remaining supervisor and the state committee shall fill the vacancy; and in case the offices of all supervisors of a district become vacant, the state committee shall fill the vacancies by appointment. A supervisor appointed to fill a vacancy holds office until the next general election. A supervisor elected to fill a vacancy serves the balance of the unexpired term in which the vacancy occurred.

Any soil conservation district, upon resolution of the three elected supervisors, may appoint two additional supervisors who shall serve for a term of one year from and after the date of their appointment. Such supervisors must be appointed by a majority of the three elected supervisors and have all the powers, voting privileges, duties, and responsibilities of elected supervisors, except that the expense allowances of the appointed supervisors must be paid by the local soil conservation district concerned. As far as possible, the appointed supervisors shall represent interests within the district which are not represented by the elected supervisors.

Any supervisor of a soil conservation district may, after notice given and hearing held in accordance with chapter 28-32, be removed from office by the state committee.

The supervisors of soil conservation districts are entitled to receive, upon a majority vote of the supervisors, <u>up to</u> twenty-five dollars for attending each regular or special meeting <u>or for attending other meetings or events in the performance of their official duties</u> as compensation for their services. Supervisors of soil conservation districts are entitled to receive travel and subsistence expenses necessarily incurred in attending district, state, or other meetings approved by the state soil conservation committee, which expenses must be paid from appropriations available to the state committee. The compensation and all other expenses including travel incurred by district supervisors while transacting district business and not specifically authorized by the state soil conservation committee must be paid from district funds.