

Fifty-fifth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1073

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Water Resources Committee)

(Representative Olson)
(Senators Goetz, Urlacher)

1 A BILL for an Act relating to establishing a water supply for eastern North Dakota as a critical
2 priority.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Findings and declaration of policy - Water to eastern North Dakota a**
5 **critical priority.** The legislative assembly finds that many areas and localities in eastern North
6 Dakota do not enjoy safe drinking water, and that the water in these areas and localities
7 contains iron, sulfates, alkali, salt, nitrates, fluoride, and other hazardous and discoloring
8 substances. It is also found that other areas and localities in eastern North Dakota do not have
9 sufficient quantities of water to ensure a dependable, long-term water supply. The legislative
10 assembly further finds that supplementation of the water resources of eastern North Dakota
11 with water supplies from the Missouri River may be the only alternative to provide eastern North
12 Dakota with a dependable source of safe, good quality water and an adequate quantity of
13 water.

14 It is further declared that effective development and utilization of the land and water
15 resources of this state; the opportunity for greater economic security; the protection of health,
16 property, enterprise, and the preservation of the benefits from the land and water resources of
17 this state; and the promotion of the prosperity and general welfare of all of the people of North
18 Dakota involve, necessitate, and require the exercise of the sovereign powers of the state and
19 concern a public purpose. Therefore, in order to accomplish this public purpose, it is declared
20 necessary that a means to supply and distribute water to the people of eastern North Dakota for
21 purposes including domestic, rural water, municipal, livestock, light industrial, mining,
22 agriculture, and other uses must be developed. In furtherance of this public purpose, the
23 supply and delivery of water to eastern North Dakota is established as a critical priority and the

- 1 state water commission shall continue to cooperate with the Garrison diversion conservancy
- 2 district in addressing this critical priority.