

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2102

Introduced by

Finance and Taxation Committee

(At the request of the Tax Commissioner)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 57-38-35.2, subsection 15 of section 57-38-40,
2 and subsections 1 and 2 of section 57-38-45 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the
3 payment of interest on income tax refunds; and to provide for retroactive application.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-38-35.2 of the 1997 Supplement to the North
6 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **57-38-35.2. Interest payments.**

- 8 1. ~~If, for any portion of the time period over which interest is otherwise computed~~
9 ~~under this section on a refund, interest was previously computed under~~
10 ~~subsection 1 of section 57-38-45 on additional tax due for any tax period, the~~
11 ~~interest computed on the refund for that portion of the time period must be~~
12 ~~computed at the same rate and in the same manner that was used in computing~~
13 ~~the interest on the additional tax due, but only to the extent that the amount of the~~
14 ~~refund does not exceed the amount of the additional tax due.~~
- 15 2. ~~To the extent subsection 1 does not apply, interest~~ Interest ~~at the rate of ten~~
16 ~~percent per annum~~ one per cent per month or fraction of a month ~~must be allowed~~
17 ~~and paid upon overpayments of income taxes~~ tax ~~as follows:~~
- 18 a. ~~No interest accrues~~ Interest ~~on refunds arising from excess income tax~~
19 ~~withholding or overpayment of declarations of estimated tax reported on the~~
20 ~~taxpayer's return for that tax period if a refund accrues for payment is made~~
21 ~~within~~ within ~~forty-five days after the due date of the return or after the date the~~
22 ~~return was filed, whichever comes later.~~
- 23 b. Interest on refunds arising from amended returns or claims made for credit or
24 refund accrues for payment from the due date of the return, ~~without regard to~~

~~extensions of the time for filing the return, to the date of payment of the refund, except that if the refund payment is made within forty five days of the date the amended return or claim is filed, interest accrues to the date the amended return or claim is filed~~ excepting the month in which the return was required to be filed.

- c. Interest on refunds arising from net operating loss carrybacks or capital loss carrybacks accrues for payment from the due date of the return for the year, determined without regard to extensions of the time for filing, giving rise to the loss carryback, to the date of payment of the refund, except that no interest accrues if the refund payment is made within forty-five days of the date the amended return or claim is filed to claim the refund attributable to the net operating loss or capital loss carryback.

- ~~3.~~ 2. No interest may be paid on refunds arising from amended returns or other claims filed for taxable years beginning before January 1, 1979.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Subsection 15 of section 57-38-40 of the 1997 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15. If the tax commissioner determines there has been an overpayment of tax, any overpaid penalty and interest on that tax must be refunded or credited by the tax commissioner. If interest is paid under section 57-38-35.2, no interest will be paid under this subsection.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsections 1 and 2 of section 57-38-45 of the 1997 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

1. In addition to other increases to tax and penalty prescribed in this chapter, a taxpayer is subject to interest as follows:
- a. Any taxpayer who requests and is granted an extension of time for filing a return shall pay, with the tax, interest on the tax at the rate of twelve percent per annum from the date the tax would have been due if the extension had not been granted to the date the tax is paid.
- b. If any amount of tax imposed by this chapter, including tax withheld by an employer, is not paid on or before the due date or extended due date for the payment, there must be added to the tax interest at the rate of one percent

per month or fraction of a month during which the tax remains unpaid,
computed from the due date of the return to the date paid excepting the
month in which the return was required to be filed or the tax became due.

c. If upon audit an additional tax is found to be due, there must be added to the
additional tax due interest at the rate of one percent of the additional tax for
each month or fraction of a month during which the tax remains unpaid,
computed from the due date of the return to the date paid, excepting the
month in which the return was required to be filed or the tax became due.

d. If the mathematical verification of a taxpayer's return results in additional tax
due, there must be added to the additional tax interest at the rate of one
percent of the additional tax due for each month or fraction of a month during
which the tax remains unpaid, computed from the due date of the return to the
date paid, excepting the month in which the return was required to be filed or
the tax became due.

~~e. If, for any portion of the time period over which interest is otherwise computed
under this subsection on additional tax due, interest was previously computed
under subsection 2 of section 57-38-35.2 on a refund for any tax period, the
interest computed on the additional tax due for that portion of the time period
must be computed at the same rate and in the same manner that was used in
computing the interest on the refund, but only to the extent that the amount of
the additional tax due does not exceed the amount of the refund.~~

~~f.~~ If a deficiency is determined for a tax period for which there was an
overpayment that was applied to the following tax period's estimated tax
under subsection 6 of section 57-38-62, interest accrues with respect to the
amount of the deficiency that is equal to or less than the amount of the
overpayment applied from the estimated tax payment date to which the
overpayment was applied.

2. In addition to the interest prescribed in this chapter, a taxpayer is subject to
additions to tax and penalty as follows:

a. If any taxpayer, without intent to evade any tax imposed by this chapter, shall
fail to pay the amount shown as tax due on any return, including tax withheld

by an employer, filed on or before the due date or extended due date prescribed therefor, there shall be added to the tax a penalty of five percent thereof, or five dollars, whichever is greater.

b. If any taxpayer, without intent to evade any tax imposed by this chapter, shall fail to file a return, including the employer's withheld tax return, on or before the due date or extended due date prescribed therefor, there shall be added a penalty equal to five percent of the tax required to be reported, or five dollars, whichever is greater, if the failure is for not more than one month, counting each fraction of a month as an entire month, with an additional five percent for each additional month or fraction thereof during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent in the aggregate.

c. If upon audit of a taxpayer's return, including tax withheld by an employer, an additional tax is found to be due, there shall be added to the tax penalty as prescribed in subdivision a or b.

d. If the mathematical verification of a taxpayer's return, including tax withheld by an employer, results in additional tax due, there shall be added to the tax penalty as prescribed in subdivision a or b.

e. The provisions of subdivision a, b, c, or d do not apply to the extent it has been determined that the taxpayer has offsetting overpayments of income taxes which have not been refunded.

f. An employer, required to file returns under subsection 1 of section 57-38-60, with four to eight delinquent original tax returns or payments is subject to a penalty of ten percent of the tax due or twenty-five dollars, whichever is greater. An employer with nine or more delinquent original returns or payments is subject to a penalty of fifteen percent of the tax due or one hundred dollars, whichever is greater.

SECTION 4. RETROACTIVE APPLICATION OF ACT. This Act applies retroactively to tax years beginning after December 31, 1997.