

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the insurance  
2 commissioner; to provide for the appointment of legislative representatives to the national  
3 conference of insurance legislators; and to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section  
4 26.1-01-07.1, sections 26.1-01-09, and 26.1-23-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating  
5 to the cash balance of the insurance regulatory trust fund, the salary of the insurance  
6 commissioner, and the unsatisfied judgment fund.

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

8 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the  
9 funds as may be necessary, are hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the insurance  
10 regulatory trust fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other special  
11 funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the insurance commissioner for the  
12 purpose of defraying the expenses of the insurance commissioner, for the biennium beginning  
13 July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001, as follows:

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 14 Salaries and wages                | \$4,195,649    |
| 15 Operating expenses                | 1,493,289      |
| 16 Equipment                         | <u>119,355</u> |
| 17 Total special funds appropriation | \$5,808,293    |

18 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - INSURANCE TAX PAYMENTS TO FIRE**  
19 **DEPARTMENTS.** There is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the insurance tax  
20 distribution fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$5,200,000, or so  
21 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the commissioner of insurance for the purpose of  
22 making payments of insurance premiums to fire departments for the biennium beginning July 1,  
23 1999, and ending June 30, 2001.

1           **SECTION 3. BONDING FUND.** Section 1 of this Act includes the sum of \$67,431, or  
2 so much of the sum as may be necessary, from the state bonding fund to pay bonding fund  
3 administrative expenses for the biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001.

4           **SECTION 4. FIRE AND TORNADO FUND.** Section 1 of this Act includes the sum of  
5 \$831,145, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, from the state fire and tornado fund to  
6 pay fire and tornado fund administrative expenses for the biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and  
7 ending June 30, 2001.

8           **SECTION 5. UNSATISFIED JUDGMENT FUND.** Section 1 of this Act includes the  
9 sum of \$4,170, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, from the state unsatisfied  
10 judgment fund to pay unsatisfied judgment fund administrative expenses for the biennium  
11 beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001.

12           **SECTION 6. PETROLEUM TANK RELEASE COMPENSATION FUND.** Section 1 of  
13 this Act includes the sum of \$68,820, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, from the  
14 petroleum tank release compensation fund to pay petroleum tank release compensation fund  
15 administrative expenses for the biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001.

16           **SECTION 7. National conference of insurance legislators - Appointment of**  
17 **representatives.** The majority leader of the house of representatives shall appoint two  
18 members of the house of representatives and the majority leader of the senate shall appoint  
19 one member of the senate to represent the state at functions of the national conference of  
20 insurance legislators. Each member shall serve a two-year term. If a member is unable to  
21 complete the member's term, the majority leader of the respective chamber shall appoint  
22 another member to complete the term. The insurance commissioner shall pay the necessary  
23 expenses of the legislative members for attending functions of the national conference of  
24 insurance legislators.

25           **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 26.1-01-07.1 of the North Dakota  
26 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 27           3. Except as otherwise provided by law, at the end of each fiscal year, the state  
28 treasurer shall transfer, after all fiscal year expenses have been paid, any cash  
29 balance remaining in the insurance regulatory trust fund that exceeds one million  
30 ~~five hundred thousand~~ dollars to the general fund.

1           **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 26.1-01-09 of the 1997 Supplement to the North  
2 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3           **26.1-01-09. Salary of commissioner.** The annual salary of the commissioner is  
4 ~~fifty-five~~ fifty-eight thousand ~~four~~ two hundred ~~eighty-seven~~ sixty-two dollars through June 30,  
5 ~~1998~~ 2000, fifty-nine thousand four hundred twenty-eight dollars through December 31, 2000,  
6 and ~~fifty-seven~~ sixty-two thousand ~~one~~ eight hundred ~~twenty~~ fifty-five dollars thereafter.

7           **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Section 26.1-23-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9           **26.1-23-03. Additional registration fee - Deposit in fund - Suspension of fee.** At  
10 the time of registering a motor vehicle, the owner shall pay to the director of the department of  
11 transportation, in addition to the registration fees, a fee of one dollar for each motor vehicle  
12 registered. The fees must be deposited with the state treasurer who shall credit the fees to the  
13 unsatisfied judgment fund. If on June first of any year the amount of uncommitted money in the  
14 fund is ~~three hundred~~ one hundred fifty thousand dollars or more, the requirement for the  
15 payment of the fee is suspended during the succeeding year and until the year in which the fee  
16 is reimposed. The fee must be reimposed for any year whenever on June first of the previous  
17 year the uncommitted amount of the fund is less than ~~three hundred~~ one hundred fifty thousand  
18 dollars.