

SENATE BILL NO. 2245

Introduced by

Senators Cook, Lee, Tomac

Representatives S. Kelsh, Renner

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 40-38-11 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to joint public library services.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 40-38-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **40-38-11. Joint public library services by cities and counties.**

- 7 1. Upon ~~compliance with section 40-38-01 for the establishment of public library~~
8 ~~services~~ petition of not less than fifty-one percent of qualified electors of each city
9 and county involved or upon resolution of the governing body of each city or county
10 involved, public library services may be jointly provided through a written
11 agreement between the governing bodies of any city or county ~~or both~~ to establish
12 and maintain joint library services with one or more cities or counties ~~or both~~.
- 13 2. A party ~~shall be~~ is bound to an agreement entered ~~into~~ under subsection 1 for an
14 initial five-year term and subsequent five-year terms unless it provides other parties
15 to the agreement with notice of intent to withdraw from the agreement at least two
16 years before the proposed date of withdrawal.
- 17 3. The parties to the agreement shall appoint a single joint library board to govern
18 public library services covered by the agreement. The method of representation on
19 the joint library board and the establishment of the initial board with staggered
20 terms ~~shall~~ must be determined in the agreement. ~~Provided, the~~ The joint library
21 board ~~shall~~ must consist of an equal number of appointees from each party to the
22 agreement and, ~~in any case, shall~~ may not consist of ~~not less~~ fewer than five
23 members nor more than eleven members. ~~No~~ A member of the board ~~shall~~ may

- 1 not serve for more than two consecutive three-year terms, after which an interval of
2 one year must elapse before the same member may be reappointed.
- 3 4. The joint library board ~~shall have~~ has all power and duties provided in sections
4 40-38-04 through 40-38-09.
- 5 5. A joint library fund ~~shall~~ must be established for the public library services covered
6 by the agreement. Each city or county represented in the agreement shall provide
7 its pro rata share of funds for the services, as specified in the agreement, from the
8 funds received under section 40-38-02.
- 9 6. The joint library board shall appoint, and may remove, a treasurer to administer the
10 joint library fund. The treasurer may be a treasurer of one of the parties to the
11 agreement or a member of the board ~~or both~~. The city auditor and county
12 treasurer of each city or county represented in the agreement and the state
13 librarian shall promptly transmit all funds authorized under subsection 5 and
14 chapter 54-24.2, ~~respectively~~, directly to the treasurer of the joint library board.
15 The treasurer shall pay out moneys belonging to the joint library board only upon
16 properly drawn vouchers, pursuant to order of the joint library board. The funds
17 received by the treasurer ~~shall~~ do not revert to or may not be considered funds on
18 hand by any governmental unit furnishing the ~~same~~ funds, at the end of any
19 biennium or fiscal year. The treasurer ~~shall~~ must be bonded in ~~such an~~ an amount ~~as~~
20 ~~may be~~ specified by resolution adopted by the joint library board.
- 21 7. The agreement ~~shall~~ must include provisions for the dissolution of the joint library
22 board and distribution of assets ~~in the event~~ if the agreement is terminated.
- 23 8. Joint libraries established and operated under this section are eligible to receive
24 financial aid under chapter 54-24.2 to the extent that each city and county
25 represented in the agreement would be eligible for the aid.
- 26 9. Agreements for public library services between cities or counties ~~or both~~ may be
27 provided under this section or other provisions of this chapter and may not be
28 provided under chapter 54-40 or other provisions of law.
- 29 ~~10. After July 1, 1981, the establishment of joint library services pursuant to this~~
30 ~~section shall not be permitted unless approved by the electors of each individual~~
31 ~~city or county considering the question.~~