

Fifty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1026

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Agriculture Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to create a transgenic wheat board; and to provide an expiration date.

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

3 **SECTION 1. Transgenic wheat board - Creation - Membership.** The governor shall
4 appoint a transgenic wheat board. The board consists of:

- 5 1. The governor, or the governor's designee, who shall serve as the chairman;
- 6 2. Three wheat producers, one of whom must be selected from a list of three names
7 submitted by the North Dakota farm bureau and one of whom must be selected
8 from a list of three names submitted by the North Dakota farmers union;
- 9 3. One individual representing the grain elevator industry;
- 10 4. One individual representing the grain transportation industry;
- 11 5. Three individuals who hold doctoral degrees in agricultural research, agricultural
12 economics, law, or in a related field;
- 13 6. The agriculture commissioner;
- 14 7. The state seed commissioner; and
- 15 8. The administrator of the North Dakota wheat commission.

16 **SECTION 2. Board meetings - Staff.**

- 17 1. The transgenic wheat board shall meet at least quarterly, at the call of the
18 chairman.
- 19 2. The chairman shall set the date and time of each meeting and shall provide at least
20 ten days' notice of each meeting to all committee members.
- 21 3. The chairman shall call a special meeting when requested to do so, in writing, by a
22 majority of the committee members.

- 1 4. The governor shall determine the staff needs of the board. The governor shall
2 compensate the staff and shall furnish suitable office space for the staff, together
3 with all necessary equipment, furniture, and supplies.

4 **SECTION 3. Compensation - Board members.** Each member of the transgenic
5 wheat board who is not an officer of the state, an employee of the state, or an employee of a
6 political subdivision is entitled to receive compensation in the amount of eighty dollars per day
7 while attending meetings and performing duties directed by the board. Each member is entitled
8 to reimbursement for expenses as provided by law for other state officers while attending
9 meetings or performing duties directed by the board.

10 **SECTION 4. Duties.** The transgenic wheat board shall:

- 11 1. Solicit and receive information on and monitor scientific, legislative, and regulatory
12 efforts that affect or involve transgenic wheat at the state and federal levels and in
13 foreign nations.
- 14 2. Solicit and receive information on and monitor national and international wheat
15 markets with respect to the acceptance or rejection of transgenic wheat.
- 16 3. Determine whether the production of transgenic wheat in this state requires state
17 or federal legislation addressing:
- 18 a. Public and private research efforts;
19 b. Grower registration;
20 c. Planting site registration;
21 d. Inspection;
22 e. Testing and identification;
23 f. Labeling;
24 g. Segregation;
25 h. Identity preservation;
26 i. Tolerances;
27 j. Transportation;
28 k. Liability;
29 l. Assessments;
30 m. Enforcement; and
31 n. Any other related issues.

- 1 4. Prepare any proposed state legislation determined necessary by the board.
- 2 5. Recommend any federal legislation determined necessary by the board to the
- 3 North Dakota congressional delegation.
- 4 6. Recommend any regulatory changes determined necessary by the board to the
- 5 agriculture commissioner, the state seed commissioner, and other state agencies.
- 6 7. Serve as a clearinghouse for economic impact data and marketing information
- 7 pertaining to transgenic wheat.

8 **SECTION 5. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through June 30, 2005, and
9 after that date is ineffective.