

Fifty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2155

Introduced by

Senators Heitkamp, Fischer, G. Lee

Representatives Belter, Delmore, Hawken

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 61-01 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to findings and declaration of policy of the legislative assembly
3 concerning the use of ground water for irrigation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 61-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Findings and declaration of policy - Use of ground water for irrigation.** The
8 legislative assembly finds that the use of ground water for irrigation purposes is vitally important
9 to the economic future of this state. The reliance on processing plants for the consistent quality
10 resulting from irrigation is an important factor in preserving this state's reputation for quality
11 agricultural production. Therefore, it is declared necessary and in the public interest that the
12 state by and through the state water commission strongly discourages the conversion of
13 agricultural water permits to any other use. Further, the legislative assembly declares that any
14 feasible or reasonable alternative supply of water be made available for municipal or domestic
15 use to enable the continued use of ground water for irrigated agriculture and agricultural
16 processing.