

June 2007

## **TITLE 58**

### **Townships**

### **Summary of Bills Enacted by 2007 Legislative Assembly**

This memorandum summarizes 2007 legislation primarily affecting North Dakota Century Code Title 58. Bills primarily affecting other titles may also affect this title, but those bills are not summarized in this memorandum.

**House Bill No. 1386** increases the annual maximum amount of compensation that a township supervisor, clerk, or treasurer is entitled from \$600 to \$1,000 and increases the annual maximum expense and mileage reimbursement for those officers from \$600 to \$1,000.

**Senate Bill No. 2278** provides that a township zoning regulation that pertains to a concentrated feeding operation which was adopted after July 31, 2007, is not effective until filed with the State Department of Health for inclusion in a central repository for concentrated feeding operations regulations. The bill also provides that a zoning regulation that pertains to a concentrated feeding operation which was adopted before August 1, 2007, may not be enforced until the regulation is filed for inclusion in the central repository.

**House Bill No. 1420** revises the limitations on zoning regulations that may be enacted by a board of township supervisors with respect to farming, ranching, and concentrated animal feeding operations. The bill establishes standards for the determination of the number of animal units and authorizes the adoption of setback distances for concentrated animal feeding operations and related agricultural operations. The bill authorizes a board of township supervisors to establish, around areas zoned for residential, recreational, or nonagricultural commercial uses, low-density agricultural production districts in which setback distances are greater than those in other districts. The bill provides that the limitations on zoning regulations with respect to farming, ranching, and concentrated animal feeding operations do not include any power relating to the role of the board of township supervisors in the establishment, repair, or maintenance of highways or roads.

**Senate Bill No. 2271** requires a township zoning commission and a board of township supervisors to state the grounds upon which any request for a zoning amendment or variance is approved or disapproved and requires that written findings upon which the decision is based be included within the records or the commission or board.

**House Bill No. 1392** increases the civil penalty that a board of township supervisors may impose for the failure to bring a building or structure or the use of land into compliance with a township zoning regulation from \$500 to \$2,000 annually.