Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1034

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Higher Education Committee)

- 1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative council study of the provision of services to children
- 2 and adults who are deaf or hearing-impaired; to provide an appropriation; and to declare an
- 3 emergency.

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

- 5 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND
 6 ADULTS WHO ARE DEAF OR HEARING-IMPAIRED. The legislative council shall consider
- 7 studying, during the 2009-10 interim, the provision of services to children and adults who are
- 8 deaf or hearing-impaired, including the role of the North Dakota school for the deaf in the
- 9 provision of educational and rehabilitative services, the short-term and long-term viability of
- 10 existing state facilities, and alternative approaches that might enhance the scope and breadth
- 11 of service availability. The study, if conducted, must include the feasibility of providing
- 12 instruction through interactive video, potential collaborative efforts with other states'
- 13 departments of education, additional revenue-generating activities of the school for the deaf,
- 14 alternative uses for buildings on the school campus, and the feasibility of educating deaf or
- 15 hearing-impaired students in local school districts. The legislative council shall report its
- 16 findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the
- 17 recommendations, to the sixty-second legislative assembly.
- 18 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
- 19 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so much
- 20 of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the purpose of contracting with a
- 21 consultant to study the provision of services to children and adults who are deaf or
- 22 hearing-impaired as provided in section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009,
- 23 and ending June 30, 2011.
- 24 **SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.