

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1009

Page 1, line 2, replace "section" with "sections" and after "4-01-21" insert "and 6-09.10-03"

Page 1, line 3, after "commissioner" insert "and the powers of the agricultural mediation service"

Page 2, after line 30, insert:

**"SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-09.10-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**6-09.10-03. North Dakota agricultural mediation service - Powers - Compensation and expenses - Fees.** The board shall meet at the call of the chair, as is necessary to fulfill its duties under this chapter. The agriculture commissioner shall administer the agricultural mediation service. The commissioner shall establish an agricultural mediation service to disseminate information to farmers concerning farm credit problems and to provide assistance to seek to resolve farm credit problems. The commissioner shall appoint an administrator of the agricultural mediation service. The commissioner shall hire staff, negotiators, and mediators who may mediate disputes involving farmers or other persons eligible for mediation with an agency of the United States department of agriculture and disputes relating to matters of crop insurance. The board may charge the farmer and others a reasonable fee for any assistance, provided the fees are used to continue the service. Fees charged to mediation participants are limited to twenty-five dollars per hour, each, for the time spent in mediation sessions. The board shall adopt policies governing the negotiators, staff, and mediators hired under this section. Board members are entitled to receive seventy-five dollars for each day of official service, as directed by the board. The board members are entitled to expenses as provided in sections 44-08-04 and 54-06-09. The expenses provided under this section may be paid from any funds available in the home-quarter purchase fund."

Re-number accordingly