

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to a retirement payment program for volunteer emergency responders;
3 and to provide an appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Volunteer emergency responder retirement payment program -**

6 **Rules.** The adjutant general as director of the department of emergency service shall establish
7 a retirement payment program for volunteer emergency responders. The adjutant general shall
8 establish an account for each eligible volunteer emergency responder. The adjutant general
9 shall contribute two hundred fifty dollars annually to each account established for each
10 volunteer emergency responder. A volunteer emergency responder must complete 20 years of
11 active volunteer status as a certified responder to be eligible to access the account. A
12 volunteer emergency responder who does not complete 20 years of active volunteer status as a
13 certified responder forfeits all state contributions made to the volunteer emergency responder's
14 account under this section. The public employees retirement system, retirement and
15 investment office, and state investment board may advise the adjutant general on
16 implementation of this section. The adjutant general shall adopt rules to implement this section,
17 including determination of eligibility to participate in the volunteer emergency responder
18 retirement payment program. An expenditure made under this section is deemed to be
19 compensation for volunteer services provided and is made for a public purpose and may not be
20 construed as a gift under section 18 of article 10 of the constitution of North Dakota.

21 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
22 general fund of the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,125,000, or so
23 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of emergency services for the

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly

- 1 purpose of making volunteer emergency responder retirement program payments under
- 2 section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, _____.