

Sixty-second  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**SENATE BILL NO. 2131**

Introduced by

Senators Andrist, Nodland

Representatives Drovdal, Froseth, Onstad, Rust

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 47-16 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to a surface access fee for oil and gas exploration and production.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 47-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Surface access fee for oil and gas exploration and production.**

7 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the person obligated to pay royalties under an  
8 oil and gas lease or division order shall pay an entry fee from the royalty interest for access to  
9 the surface for oil and gas exploration and production equal to eight percent of the oil and gas  
10 royalties payable within the spacing unit to all surface owners in the spacing unit in proportion to  
11 the surface owner's ownership interest in the surface area covered by the spacing unit.