

Sixty-second
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2246

Introduced by

Senators Olafson, Lyson

Representatives Frantsvog, Kreun

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 57-40.6-02 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to fees imposed for emergency services communications.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-40.6-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **57-40.6-02. (Effective through June 30, 2012) Authority of counties or cities to impose**
7 **fee on assessed communications service - Procedure.**

8 The governing body of a county or city may impose a fee on all assessed communications
9 services in accordance with the following requirements:

- 10 1. The governing body shall adopt a resolution that proposes the adoption of the fee
11 permitted under this section. The resolution must specify an effective date for the fee
12 which is no more than two years before the expected implementation date of the
13 emergency services communication system to be funded by the fee. The resolution
14 must include a provision for submitting the proposed fee to the electors of the county
15 or city before the imposition of the fee is effective. The resolution must specify a fee
16 that does not exceed one dollar per month per communication connection and must
17 be applied equally upon all assessed communications services.
- 18 2. The question of the adoption of the fee must be submitted on a petition on which the
19 petition title of the proposition includes the maximum monthly rate of the proposed fee
20 authorized under subsection 1. The question of the adoption of the fee may be
21 submitted to electors at a general, primary, or special election or at a school district
22 election if the boundaries of the school district are coterminous with the boundaries of
23 the governing body adopting the resolution proposing the adoption of the fee. The fee
24 is not effective unless it is approved by a majority of the electors voting on the

1 proposition. The ballot must be worded so that a "yes" vote authorizes imposition of
2 the fee for an initial six-year period.

3 3. If the electors have approved imposition of a fee under this section before July 1,
4 2005, and the governing body of the city or county has not implemented that fee by
5 June 30, 2005, the approval by the electors remains valid until the fee is implemented
6 and, upon implementation, the fee may be imposed for a six-year period and is subject
7 to reimposition under subsection 4.

8 4. Any political subdivision that desires to increase the fee, subject to the limitations in
9 subsection 1, before the end of the six-year term, must use the same ballot procedure
10 originally used to authorize the fee. The new ballot question may apply to only the
11 proposed increase and not to the original amount or the original term. If the increase is
12 approved, the new amount may be collected for the balance of the original six-year
13 term. If the fee authorized by this section is approved by the electors, the fee may be
14 reimposed for six additional years without resubmitting the question to the electors.

15 5. In any geographic area, only one political subdivision may impose the fee and
16 imposition must be based on the subscriber service address.

17 6. In the interest of public safety, where the subscriber's telephone exchange access
18 service boundary and the boundary of the political subdivision imposing the fee do not
19 coincide, and where all of the political subdivisions within the subscriber's telephone
20 exchange access service boundary have not complied with subsection 1, and where a
21 majority of the E911 subscribers within the subscriber's telephone exchange access
22 service boundary have voted for the fee, a telephone exchange access service
23 subscriber whose subscriber service address is outside the political subdivision may
24 receive E911 services by signing a contract agreement with the political subdivision
25 providing the emergency services communication system. The telephone exchange
26 access service provider may collect an additional fee, equal in amount to the basic fee
27 on those subscribers within the exchange boundary. The additional fee amounts
28 collected must be remitted as provided in this chapter.

29 7. A fee imposed under this section before August 1, 2007, on telephone exchange
30 access service is extended to all assessed communications services and remains in
31 effect until changed under this section.

- 1 8. Political subdivisions within an intrastate multicounty public safety answering point
2 may exceed the maximum fee of one dollar to an amount not to exceed one dollar and
3 fifty cents. The governing body of the political subdivision may increase the fee by
4 resolution subject to a vote in that political subdivision at the next general election.

5 **(Effective after June 30, 2012) Authority of counties or cities to impose fee on**
6 **assessed communications service - Procedure.** The governing body of a county or city may
7 impose a fee on all assessed communications services in accordance with the following
8 requirements:

- 9 1. The governing body shall adopt a resolution that proposes the adoption of the fee
10 permitted under this section. The resolution must specify an effective date for the fee
11 which is no more than two years before the expected implementation date of the
12 emergency services communication system to be funded by the fee. The resolution
13 must include a provision for submitting the proposed fee to the electors of the county
14 or city before the imposition of the fee is effective. The resolution must specify a fee
15 that does not exceed one dollar and fifty cents per month per communication
16 connection and must be applied equally upon all assessed communications services.
- 17 2. The question of the adoption of the fee must be submitted on a petition on which the
18 petition title of the proposition includes the maximum monthly rate of the proposed fee
19 authorized under subsection 1. The question of the adoption of the fee may be
20 submitted to electors at a general, primary, or special election or at a school district
21 election if the boundaries of the school district are coterminous with the boundaries of
22 the governing body adopting the resolution proposing the adoption of the fee. The fee
23 is not effective unless it is approved by a majority of the electors voting on the
24 proposition. The ballot must be worded so that a "yes" vote authorizes imposition of
25 the fee for an initial six-year period.
- 26 3. ~~If the electors have approved imposition of a fee under this section before July 1,~~
27 ~~2005, and the governing body of the city or county has not implemented that fee by~~
28 ~~June 30, 2005, the approval by the electors remains valid until the fee is implemented~~
29 ~~and, upon implementation, the fee may be imposed for a six-year period and is subject~~
30 ~~to reimposition under subsection 4.~~

- 1 4. Any political subdivision that desires to increase the fee, subject to the limitations in-
2 subsection 1, before the end of the six-year term, must use the same ballot procedure
3 originally used to authorize the fee. The new ballot question may apply to only the
4 proposed increase and not to the original amount or the original term. If the increase is
5 approved, the new amount may be collected for the balance of the original six-year
6 term. If the fee authorized by this section is approved by the electors, the fee may be
7 reimposed for six additional years without resubmitting the question to the
8 electors. Once established by this section, the maximum fee may be increased,
9 decreased, or eliminated by a majority vote of the electors. The question may be
10 placed on the ballot of any general, primary, or special election by a resolution of the
11 governing body, or by a petition signed by ten percent or more of the total number of
12 qualified electors of the political subdivision voting for governor at the most recent
13 gubernatorial election and submitted to the governing body. By action of the governing
14 body, the fee amount collected may be adjusted, subject to the maximum approved by
15 the voters, to meet the costs allowed by this chapter.
- 16 5. In any geographic area, only one political subdivision may impose the fee and
17 imposition must be based on the subscriber service address.
- 18 6. In the interest of public safety, where the subscriber's telephone exchange access
19 service boundary and the boundary of the political subdivision imposing the fee do not
20 coincide, and where all of the political subdivisions within the subscriber's telephone
21 exchange access service boundary have not complied with subsection 1, and where a
22 majority of the E911 subscribers within the subscriber's telephone exchange access
23 service boundary have voted for the fee, a telephone exchange access service
24 subscriber whose subscriber service address is outside the political subdivision may
25 receive E911 services by signing a contract agreement with the political subdivision
26 providing the emergency services communication system. The telephone exchange
27 access service provider may collect an additional fee, equal in amount to the basic fee
28 on those subscribers within the exchange boundary. The additional fee amounts
29 collected must be remitted as provided in this chapter.

- 1 7. A fee imposed under this section before August 1, 2007, on telephone exchange
- 2 access service is extended to all assessed communications services and will remain in
- 3 effect until changed pursuant to subsection 4.