

Sixty-third
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1355

Introduced by

Representatives Keiser, Drovdal, Hunskor, Boe

Senators Andrist, Laffen

- 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 definition of commencement of drilling operations.

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 **Commencement of drilling operations - Definition.**

- 7 For purposes of an oil and gas lease, commencement of drilling operations, engaged in
8 drilling operations, or engaged in reworking operations means activity must have commenced
9 on the leasehold before the expiration of the primary term of the lease, the well location must be
10 completed and capable of accepting a drilling rig that can complete the well to its permitted
11 depth within fifteen days of the expiration of the primary term of the lease, and a drilling rig
12 capable of completing the well to its permitted depth must be on location within thirty days of the
13 expiration of the primary term of the lease.