

Sixty-fifth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1251**

Introduced by

Representatives Louser, Beadle, Brabandt, Dockter, B. Koppelman, M. Ruby, Vetter

Senators Burckhard, Hogue

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-17 of the North Dakota~~  
2 ~~Century Code, relating to an inmate program to construct homes for low-income home-~~  
3 ~~buyers.~~ for an Act to provide for a legislative management study of the creation of an inmate  
4 housing construction program.

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

6 ~~— **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
7 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

8 ~~— **Inmate housing construction program.**~~

9 ~~— 1. The industrial commission and the department of corrections and rehabilitation shall~~  
10 ~~collaborate to establish a program through which inmates are provided housing~~  
11 ~~construction vocational skills through the construction of homes that are made~~  
12 ~~available for sale to low-income home buyers.~~

13 ~~— 2. The industrial commission:~~

14 ~~— a. May appoint an advisory board to assist with this program, which may include~~  
15 ~~private and public membership.~~

16 ~~— b. May offer home purchase financing or loan guarantees through the Bank of North~~  
17 ~~Dakota.~~

18 ~~— c. May administer the program through the housing finance agency.~~

19 ~~— d. Shall establish home buyer qualifications, which must include provisions:~~

20 ~~— (1) Setting household income limits.~~

21 ~~— (2) Requiring the program home be used as the home buyer's sole residence.~~

22 ~~— (3) Requiring the program home to be placed within the state.~~

23 ~~— 3. The department of corrections and rehabilitation:~~

1 ~~a. May add this program to the program of modified workers' compensation~~  
2 ~~coverage established under chapter 65-06.2.~~

3 ~~b. May employ inmates under this program in accordance with chapter 12-48.~~

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - INMATE HOUSING**

5 **CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.** During the 2017-18 interim, the legislative management shall  
6 study the creation of an inmate housing construction program to provide inmates with housing  
7 construction vocational skills through the construction of homes to be made available for sale to  
8 low-income home buyers. The study must include an analysis of the grants available to support  
9 the program, the ability to establish partnerships with private industry and apprentice  
10 opportunities with labor groups, and the ability to work with private industry to provide for the  
11 sale and transport of the completed homes. The legislative management shall report its findings  
12 and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the  
13 recommendations, to the sixty-sixth legislative assembly.