Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1349

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, D. Johnson, Kading

Senators Luick, Oban, Wanzek

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 4.1-18.1 of the North Dakota Century Code,
- 2 relating to the regulation of industrial hemp; to amend and reenact subdivision b of subsection 2
- 3 of section 12-60-24 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to criminal history background
- 4 checks; to repeal chapter 4.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the regulation of
- 5 industrial hemp; to provide a penalty; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to declare an
- 6 emergency.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

- 8 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 4.1-18.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
- 9 follows:
- 10 4.1-18.1-01. Industrial hemp (cannabis sativa I.).
- 11 "Industrial hemp" or "hemp" means the plant cannabis sativa I. and any part of the plant,
- 12 <u>including the seeds and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts</u>
- of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not
- 14 more than three-tenths of one percent on a dry weight basis.
- 15 <u>4.1-18.1-02. Industrial hemp Licensure.</u>
- Any person desiring to grow or process industrial hemp shall apply to the agriculture
- 17 commissioner for a license on a form prescribed by the commissioner. A license must be
- 18 <u>obtained before a person purchases or obtains industrial hemp material for planting or</u>
- 19 propagation. The applicant is responsible for anyone working under the applicant's license for
- 20 <u>all sections of this chapter.</u>
- 21 <u>1. The application for a license must include the name and address of the applicant, and</u>
- 22 the legal description of the land area to be used to produce or process industrial
- hemp.

1	<u>2.</u>	The commissioner shall require each applicant for initial licensure to submit to a			
2		statewide and nationwide criminal history record check. The nationwide criminal			
3		history record check must be conducted in the manner provided in section 12-60-24.			
4		All costs associated with the criminal history record check are the responsibility of the			
5		applicant.			
6	<u>3.</u>	Criminal history records provided to the commissioner under this section are			
7		confidential. The commissioner may use the records only in determining an applicant's			
8		eligibility for licensure.			
9	<u>4.</u>	The commissioner shall deny licensure to any person convicted of a felony relating to			
10		a controlled substance under state or federal law in the last ten years.			
11	<u>5.</u>	If the applicant has completed the application process to the satisfaction of the			
12		commissioner, the commissioner shall issue the license. A license issued under this			
13		chapter expires December thirty-first.			
14	<u>6.</u>	An application for a license under this subsection may be submitted to the			
15		commissioner any time before the purchase of hemp seed or viable propagation			
16		material.			
17	4.1-18.1-03. License Fee.				
18	The commissioner shall assess each producer and processor a fee not to exceed three				
19	hundred and fifty dollars. The commissioner shall deposit fees collected under this chapter in				
20	the commissioner's operating fund which are appropriated to the commissioner on a continuing				
21	basis for the purpose of enforcing this chapter.				
22	4.1-18.1-04. License - Grounds for denial.				
23	<u>1.</u>	The agriculture commissioner may deny or revoke a license to any person who:			
24		a. Repeatedly violates this chapter;			
25		b. Provides false or misleading information in connection with any application			
26		required by this chapter; or			
27		c. Has been convicted of a felony, as described in section 4.1-18.1-02, since the			
28		most recent criminal history background check.			
29	<u>2.</u>	Any person denied a license under this section may request a hearing before the			
30		commissioner within thirty days after the date of the denial.			

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1 **4.1-18.1-05. Violations.**

- 2 <u>1. A producer found in violation of this chapter for negligently failing to provide the legal</u>
- description of the land where the producer is growing hemp, failing to obtain a license,
- 4 <u>or by producing hemp with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of more than</u>
- 5 three-tenths of one percent on a dry weight basis is subject to:
- 6 <u>a. Meeting a deadline set by the commissioner to come into compliance with this</u>
 7 chapter; and
 - b. Additional reporting requirements set by the commissioner for a period of no less
 than two years.
 - 2. An applicant or person licensed to grow hemp under this chapter found in violation of the chapter with a culpable mental state greater than negligence must be reported to the attorney general.

13 <u>4.1-18.1-06. Confiscation and disposal.</u>

- Any hemp found to be in violation of this chapter is subject to confiscation and disposal by the commissioner.
- 2. Any disposal related costs will be the responsibility of the producer, owner, or person
 responsible for the hemp.
- 18 3. The commissioner is not liable for any destruction of hemp or hemp products carried
 19 out under this chapter.

20 **4.1-18.1-07. Commissioner powers.**

- The commissioner may enter on any land or areas where hemp is grown, stored, or
- 22 processed for the purposes of inspections, sample collection, testing, or investigation for the
- 23 purposes of enforcing this chapter.

4.1-18.1-08. Industrial hemp - Research.

- 25 1. Any researcher associated with or operating under an institution under the control of
 26 the state board of higher education is exempt from obtaining a license described under
- 27 <u>section 4.1-18-02 to grow industrial hemp. A researcher shall notify the commissioner</u>
- of the researcher's intent to plant industrial hemp and provide the following information
- 29 to the commissioner:
- 30 a. The name and contact information of the primary investigator; and
- 31 b. The legal description of all land where hemp will be grown as part of the project.

1	<u>2.</u>	<u>The</u>	research institution shall ensure the primary investigator and all other project
2		part	icipants meet the criminal history background restrictions in section 4.1-18.1-02.
3	SEC	CTIO	2. AMENDMENT. Subdivision b of subsection 2 of section 12-60-24 of the North
4	Dakota	Centu	ury Code is amended and reenacted as follows:
5		b.	The agriculture commissioner for each applicant for a license to grow or process
6			industrial hemp under section 4.1-18-02 and any individual engaged in an activity
7			authorized under section 4.1-18-034.1-18.1-02.
8	SEC	CTIO	3. REPEAL. Chapter 4.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.
9	SEC	CTIO	4. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.