

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**

**House Bill No. 1009 - Department of Agriculture - Conference Committee Action**

	Base Budget	House Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	Senate Version	Comparison to Senate
Salaries and wages	\$17,042,562	\$17,976,536		\$17,976,536	\$17,976,536	
New and vacant FTE pool		587,646	\$166,831	754,477	754,477	
Operating expenses	7,426,173	8,222,860	(208,604)	8,014,256	8,014,256	
Capital assets	7,000	11,100		11,100	11,100	
Grants	10,953,969	16,215,269	1,880,000	18,095,269	18,795,269	(\$700,000)
State Board of Animal Health	865,718	857,361		857,361	857,361	
Wildlife Services	1,657,400	1,657,400	150,000	1,807,400	1,807,400	
Crop Harmonization Board	75,000	75,000		75,000	75,000	
Pipeline restoration and reclamation	200,000					
Ag. Products Utilization Commission	2,110,417	5,110,417		5,110,417	5,110,417	
North Dakota Trade Office	1,600,000	2,000,000		2,000,000	2,000,000	
Pipeline and royalty oversight programs		500,000		500,000	500,000	
<b>Total all funds</b>	<b>\$41,938,239</b>	<b>\$53,213,589</b>	<b>\$1,988,227</b>	<b>\$55,201,816</b>	<b>\$55,901,816</b>	<b>(\$700,000)</b>
Less estimated income	27,117,306	36,518,227	2,054,113	38,572,340	39,272,340	(700,000)
General fund	\$14,820,933	\$16,695,362	(\$65,886)	\$16,629,476	\$16,629,476	\$0
FTE	80.00	80.00	1.00	81.00	81.00	0.00

**Department 602 - Department of Agriculture - Detail of Conference Committee Changes**

	Adds Funding for an FTE Plant Protection Position <sup>1</sup>	Removes Funding for State Fleet Rate Increases <sup>2</sup>	Adds Funding for the Grape and Wine Grant Program <sup>3</sup>	Adds Funding for the Wildlife Services Program <sup>4</sup>	Adds One-Time Funding <sup>5</sup>	Total Conference Committee Changes
Salaries and wages						
New and vacant FTE pool	\$166,831					\$166,831
Operating expenses	41,396	(\$250,000)				(208,604)
Capital assets						
Grants			\$80,000		\$1,800,000	1,880,000
State Board of Animal Health						
Wildlife Services				\$150,000		150,000
Crop Harmonization Board						
Pipeline restoration and reclamation						
Ag. Products Utilization Commission						
North Dakota Trade Office						
Pipeline and royalty oversight programs						
<b>Total all funds</b>	<b>\$208,227</b>	<b>(\$250,000)</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$1,800,000</b>	<b>\$1,988,227</b>
Less estimated income	104,113	0	0	150,000	1,800,000	2,054,113
General fund	\$104,114	(\$250,000)	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	(\$65,886)
FTE	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00

<sup>1</sup> Funding of \$113,382 from the general fund and \$113,382 from the environment and rangeland protection fund is added for an FTE plant protection position, including \$41,396 for operating expenses, the same as provided by the Senate. Funding for salaries and wages is decreased by \$185,368 and funding of \$166,831 is added to the new and vacant FTE pool for the position resulting in net savings of \$18,537.

<sup>2</sup> Removes \$250,000 added by the House for state fleet rate increases to provide a total of \$500,000 from the general fund, the same as provided by the Senate. The House provided \$750,000 from the general fund for state fleet rate increases.

<sup>3</sup> Funding of \$80,000 from the general fund is added to restore funding removed by the House for the grape and wine grant program, the same as provided by the Senate.

<sup>4</sup> Funding of \$150,000 from the environment and rangeland protection fund is added for aerial contract services for the Wildlife Services program to provide a total of \$1,807,400 for the Wildlife Services program, the same as provided by the Senate.

<sup>5</sup> One-time funding is added as follows:

- \$1.5 million from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) for grants to food pantries for meat and protein. The Senate provided \$2 million from SIIF for grants to food pantries for meat and protein.
- \$300,000 from SIIF for autonomous technology grants. The Senate provided \$500,000 from SIIF for autonomous technology grants.

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### House Bill No. 1009 - Other Changes - Conference Committee Action

This amendment also:

- Does not adjust funding of \$3 million from Bank of North Dakota profits for the APUC program and \$400,000 from the general fund for the North Dakota Trade Office from one-time funding to ongoing funding. The House provided one-time funding and the Senate provided ongoing funding for the APUC program and the North Dakota Trade Office.
- Adds a section providing for a \$250,000 transfer from the environment and rangeland protection fund to the environmental impact mitigation fund for the environmental impact mitigation program, the same as provided by the Senate. The Agriculture Commissioner has continuing appropriation authority for the environmental impact mitigation fund.
- Adds a section to transfer any balance in the bioscience innovation grant fund to the general fund on June 30, 2025, the same as included by the Senate. This will increase the beginning general fund balance for the 2025-27 biennium by \$1,029,968.
- Amends a section identifying funding in Section 1 from the environment and rangeland protection fund, the same as included by the Senate.
- Amends a section identifying \$4,800,000 appropriated in Section 1 from SIIF. The Senate appropriated \$5,500,000 from SIIF. The House appropriated \$3,000,000 from SIIF.
- Adds a section to provide the funding appropriated in the wildlife services line item may not be used to pay indirect costs as part of the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services program, the same as included by the Senate.
- Amends a section to provide exemptions to authorize the Agriculture Commissioner to continue funding for grasslands grazing grants of \$5 million appropriated from SIIF for the 2021-23 and \$1 million appropriated from SIIF for the 2023-25 biennium into the 2025-27 biennium, the same as included by the Senate.
- Declares an emergency for the transfer from the bioscience innovation grant fund to the general fund.