

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1600
(Representatives O'Brien, Sanford, Schreiber-Beck)
(Senators Axtman, Sickler)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the establishment of the immigration law clinic at the university of North Dakota school of law; to provide for a report; and to provide an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 15-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Immigration law clinic.

1. The university of North Dakota school of law shall employ one full-time staff attorney for the immigration law clinic. The immigration law clinic attorney may not have more than sixty matters open at any one time.
2. Legal services may be provided and legal work may be done remotely, depending on the needs of the client.
3. The university of North Dakota school of law may charge nominal fees, as needed, to operate the immigration law clinic.

SECTION 2. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF LAW - IMMIGRATION LAW CLINIC - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The university of North Dakota school of law shall prepare a report on the status of the immigration law clinic, including the impact of the operation of the immigration law clinic on the university of North Dakota school of law, the sustainability of the clinic based on fee collections, the number of law students interested in participating in the clinic, the number of law students participating in the clinic, and the number of student hours of involvement. The report must also include the number of businesses, employers, and individuals seeking legal services, the location of the individuals or entities seeking services, and the scope of work requested. The report must also identify any obstacles encountered in developing the clinic, potential future challenges for the clinic, a detailed plan to meet these challenges, and any legislation necessary to support the recommendations for the clinic's successful operation. The university of North Dakota school of law shall present the report to the seventieth legislative assembly.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET - IMMIGRATION LAW CLINIC - ONE-TIME FUNDING. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the strategic investment and improvements fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$400,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the office of management and budget for the purpose of providing a grant to the university of North Dakota to fund an immigration law clinic at the university of North Dakota school of law, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The appropriation provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1600.

House Vote: Yeas 64 Nays 29 Absent 1

Senate Vote: Yeas 34 Nays 13 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2025,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State