

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Conference Committee Amendments
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1035**

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Budget Committee on Government Services)

(Representatives Martin, Sveen)
(Senator St. Aubyn)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 54-24.4 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the North Dakota library coordinating council; to amend and reenact sections
3 54-24-02, 54-24-03, 54-24-09, 54-24.3-01, 54-24.3-03, 54-24.3-04, 54-24.3-05, 54-24.3-06,
4 54-24.3-07, 54-24.3-08, 54-24.3-09, 54-24.3-10, 54-24.3-11, 54-24.3-12, 54-24.3-13,
5 54-24.3-14, 54-24.3-15, and 54-24.3-16 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the state
6 library and multitype library authorities; to repeal sections 54-24-07 and 54-24.3-02 of the North
7 Dakota Century Code, relating to state library printing costs and the statewide library planning
8 committee; and to provide appropriations.

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

10 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-24-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11 amended and reenacted as follows:

12 **54-24-02. Library offices.** The state library must be furnished with adequate office
13 room, with such suitable quarters as may be necessary for the proper shelving of ~~the~~
14 ~~educational reference~~ its library, ~~the books of the traveling libraries, and the legislative~~
15 ~~reference collection~~ materials.

16 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-24-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
17 amended and reenacted as follows:

18 **54-24-03. Powers and duties of state librarian.** The state librarian shall:

- 19 1. Make rules for the operation of the state library.
- 20 2. Provide and care for all books and library materials in all collections of the state
21 library, ~~general, reference, and special, and make all rules regarding the loaning~~
22 ~~and returning of library materials~~ and work to focus the collections.
- 23 3. Employ qualified library personnel to care for all library procedures.

- 1 4. Make library materials available to libraries throughout the state, to individuals
2 connected with departments of state, and to citizens of North Dakota who do not
3 have adequate library facilities, under the rules of the state library.
- 4 5. ~~Promote and assist by counsel and encouragement the formation of libraries and~~
5 ~~the improvement of those already established, in keeping with state and national~~
6 ~~standards, and be available to librarians and trustees of libraries in the state for~~
7 ~~assistance in organization, maintenance, or administration of the libraries.~~ Work to
8 improve library services to citizens by providing assistance to librarians and library
9 trustees and staff and by encouraging the extension of networking and regional
10 and statewide cooperation among libraries.
- 11 6. Coordinate the efforts of librarianship throughout the state, advising and assisting
12 the extension of qualified public libraries into centers of county or ~~regional~~
13 ~~(multicounty)~~ multicounty libraries.
- 14 7. Compile statistics ~~of the free public~~ on all North Dakota libraries ~~of North Dakota~~
15 and their services and their larger counterparts of county and ~~regional~~ multicounty
16 libraries, regional library cooperatives including multitype library authorities, and of
17 the work done at the state library, and make a full biennial report to the
18 superintendent of public instruction and the governor. The state librarian may not
19 require a private sector library to submit information relating to the provisions of
20 this subsection.
- 21 8. Collect, maintain, and make available ~~a reference and reading collection of books,~~
22 ~~slides, films, and other graphic~~ informational materials that supplement and
23 support the needs of all libraries in the state, either by direct loan or by
24 consultation, and that form a reference source for the officers of the state in
25 performing their duties.
- 26 9. ~~Collect and maintain a collection of the publications of the departments and~~
27 ~~agencies of state government, including the enacted laws of this state, current~~
28 ~~session laws, and journals.~~ Assist libraries in developing local standards and
29 guidelines defining the basic level of service that they will provide.

10. Conduct, or have conducted, research into the conditions of library service in the state, and produce written plans for the development and betterment of that service.
11. ~~Compile, or have compiled, union lists of resources of libraries throughout the state, and make those lists available for consultation.~~ Promote and assist in the development of regional library cooperatives, including multitype library authorities.
12. Establish levels of certification for ~~librarians~~ libraries of the state that meet the standards recommended by the American library association and the North Dakota library association.
13. Promote and assist libraries in this state in developing and maintaining a computerized, comprehensive, bibliographic statewide data base for storing bibliographic records of libraries which allows residents unmediated, seamless, direct access to library catalogs with a common interface and a common set of commands and the ability to search the library collections of the entire state at one time or only the collections of the local library, regional libraries, or select group of libraries.
14. Coordinate interlibrary loan activities throughout this state.
15. Arrange for continuing education and training programs for library personnel.
16. Provide technical assistance and counsel to library personnel.
17. Distribute grants to libraries within the limits of legislative appropriations for the purpose of developing or improving library services or programs.
18. Provide staff services to the North Dakota library coordinating council.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24-09 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24-09. Distribution of certain state publications for certain libraries required.

The state purchasing and printing agent shall arrange to deposit with the state library eight copies of all publications issued by all executive, legislative, and judicial agencies of state government intended for general public distribution. These publications must be provided to the state library without charge. ~~Should~~ If expense and limited supply of state publications, particularly audiovisual items, make ~~strict~~ compliance with the depository requirement impossible, the state library shall accept as many copies as an agency can afford to provide.

1 However, each agency shall provide no less than two copies ~~must be provided~~ to the state
2 library ~~by each agency~~. State publications refer to any informational materials regardless of
3 format, method of reproduction, or source, originating in or produced with the imprint of, by the
4 authority of, or at the total or partial expense of, any state agency. The definition incorporates
5 those publications that may or may not be financed by state funds but are released by private
6 bodies such as research and consultant firms under contract with or supervision of any state
7 agency. In circumstances not directly involving the state purchasing and printing agent, a state
8 agency shall comply with the depository requirement by arranging with the necessary parties
9 for the printing and deposit of eight copies of any state publication issued. State publications
10 are specifically defined as public documents appearing as reports, directories, statistical
11 compendiums, bibliographies, laws or bills, rules, regulations, newsletters, bulletins, state
12 plans, brochures, periodicals, committee minutes, transcripts of public hearings, other printed
13 matter, audiotapes, videotapes, films, filmstrips, or slides, but not those administrative or
14 training materials used only within the issuing agency. As the document acquisition and
15 distribution agency, the state library shall retain for its ~~own use~~ document collection two copies
16 of every state document received and transmit the remaining copies to the depository libraries.
17 These are the libraries of the state historical board, the university of North Dakota, North
18 Dakota state university, library of Congress, and two others to be designated by the state
19 library. All nondepository North Dakota libraries ~~shall have the opportunity to~~ may receive state
20 documents under an optional selection program developed by the state library. The state
21 library shall catalog state publications and arrange for their conversion to microfilm or to optical
22 disk storage prescribed by the state records administrator and shall make available for
23 distribution the same to the designated depository libraries.

24 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-24.3-01 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
25 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **54-24.3-01. Definitions.** In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 27 1. "Academic library" means a library that is part of a college or university that is
28 publicly or privately funded and whose primary role is to provide resources to
29 enrich and support the school's curricula and the research needs of students and
30 faculty.

2. "Library resource center" means a central service unit, whose location is to be agreed upon by members of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative and ~~who~~ which is responsible for extending special services to support members of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative, while meeting all ~~authority~~ cooperative standards.
3. "Multitype library authority" means a geographic subdivision within which multitype libraries are organized for the purpose of providing library and information services through cooperation and mutual support.
4. ~~"Multitype library authority network" means the statewide group of multitype library authorities.~~
5. "Participant library" means any library agreeing to join a ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative.
5. "Public library" means a library that is supported with funds derived from taxation and which maintains a balanced collection of materials to serve the lifelong information, reading, and recreational needs of the general population.
6. "Regional library cooperative" means an organization of one or more types of library organized under article VI of section 54-24.1-01, or a multitype library authority.
7. "School library media center" means a learning center operated as part of a publicly or privately supported school or school district and whose role is to provide instruction, cooperatively design learning strategies, and provide resources that support and enrich the curriculum, following the North Dakota school library media guidelines.
8. "Special library" means a public or private sector library whose collection is specialized and limited in scope and size and whose role is to provide information to a limited clientele.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-03 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-03. ~~Committee~~ North Dakota library coordinating council powers and duties. In the administration of this chapter, the ~~committee~~ North Dakota library coordinating council may:

1. Adopt ~~bylaws~~ rules for the conduct of business.
2. Provide guidance for the development, implementation, and improvement of ~~the multitype library authority network~~ regional library cooperatives.
3. Enter ~~into~~ contracts necessary for establishing and governing regional library cooperatives.
4. ~~Utilize~~ Use the staff of the state library ~~as permitted by~~ in consultation with the state librarian.
5. Adopt a compensation plan for ~~network~~ staff as necessary for establishing and governing regional library cooperatives.
6. Set the terms and conditions of statewide service contracts with libraries.
7. Determine necessary or desirable ~~interauthority~~ regional or statewide library programs or services.
8. Propose standards for service.
9. Set ~~interauthority~~ reimbursement formulas among regional library cooperatives for reciprocal borrowing and other cooperative plans and set statewide policies for reimbursement formulas for reciprocal borrowing.
10. Conduct periodic performance reviews of ~~multitype library authorities~~ all categories of coordinating council grant-funded projects and make service revisions.
- ~~11. Determine types of interaction and linkage of the North Dakota multitype library network with interstate and national library networks.~~

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-04 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-04. ~~Multitype library authorities~~ Regional library cooperatives -
Establishment. ~~The committee shall~~ North Dakota library coordinating council may establish ~~one multitype library authority during the 1991-93 biennium and shall establish one or more multitype library authorities in each biennium thereafter, until no fewer than four nor more than eight are in existence~~ regional library cooperatives. In establishing the ~~authorities cooperatives~~, the ~~committee~~ council shall consider:

1. Population;
2. Population density;
3. Number and types of libraries;

4. Library information resources, including existing libraries, staff and collections;
5. Marketing and transportation patterns;
6. Proximity of municipalities;
7. Geographic size of the authority;
8. Finances; and
9. Any other matter not inconsistent with this section.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-05 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-05. ~~Multitype library authority~~ Regional library cooperative interim planning committee - Establishment. The ~~statewide library planning committee~~ North Dakota library coordinating council shall appoint an interim planning committee for ~~the multitype library authority~~ a proposed regional library cooperative. The interim planning committee must consist of two lay representatives residing within the ~~authority~~ cooperative and five librarians. The librarians ~~must~~, as far as practical, must represent public libraries, academic libraries, school library media centers, and special libraries.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-06 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-06. ~~Multitype library authority~~ Regional library cooperative interim planning committee - Duties. In the administration of this chapter, the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative interim planning committee may:

1. Elect provisional officers;
2. Identify all librarians eligible to be members of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative;
3. Hold informational meetings;
4. Distribute and receive applications for memberships in the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative;
5. Draft interim bylaws for the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative;
6. Prepare papers of incorporation;
7. Publicize activities;

8. Prepare a three-year plan for the development of services within the ~~authority~~
cooperative and present it to the ~~statewide planning committee~~ North Dakota
library coordinating council for review and approval; and

9. Exercise any other duty that is necessary to carry out this chapter.

SECTION 9. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-07 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-07. ~~Multitype library authority~~ Regional library cooperative - Membership.

To join the regional ~~multitype library authority~~ library cooperative, a library ~~shall~~ must obtain
official approval from its board and submit an application to the interim planning committee. A
library that agrees to provide to any person residing within the ~~authority~~ cooperative access to
its collection on the premises, reciprocal borrowing privileges, and interlibrary loan service, may
apply for membership. To be eligible for membership, a library ~~shall~~ must have defined service
objectives, a fixed location, regular hours of service, an organized collection of information and
materials accessible for use by its designated clientele, and a qualified and responsible staff.
The library ~~shall~~ must have an identifiable organizational structure and a legal basis for
operation. The library ~~shall~~ must be willing and able to participate in appropriate services and
programs as set forth by the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative. The
~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative interim planning committee shall review
all applications and approve applicants for membership.

SECTION 10. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-08 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-08. ~~Multitype library authority~~ Regional library cooperative - Board. Each
participating library shall designate a representative to sit on the board of the ~~multitype library~~
~~authority~~ regional library cooperative. At its first meeting, the board shall elect a president, vice
president, treasurer, and any other officer it determines to be necessary. The director of the
designated library resource center shall serve as an ex officio nonvoting member of the board.
The board shall meet at least six times a year and has the power to contract, hire staff and set
compensation levels, and adopt bylaws for the conduct of its business. The term of office for all
officers of the board is one year, commencing on the January first after election.

SECTION 11. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-09 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1 **54-24.3-09. ~~Multitype library authority~~ Regional library cooperative - Powers and**
2 **duties.** In the administration of this chapter, each ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library
3 cooperative may:

- 4 1. Sue and be sued in the name of the ~~authority~~ cooperative.
- 5 2. Designate for the ~~multitype library authority~~ cooperative a central library resource
- 6 center with responsibility to extend special services to ~~authority~~ cooperative
- 7 members while meeting all ~~authority~~ cooperative standards.
- 8 3. Designate an administrative officer for the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional
- 9 library cooperative.
- 10 4. Establish, manage, maintain, and operate library facilities.
- 11 5. Employ necessary personnel to carry out ~~the provisions of~~ this chapter.
- 12 6. Purchase supplies and equipment.
- 13 7. Acquire and hold property by purchase, devise, lease, gift, or otherwise and sell,
- 14 exchange, or otherwise dispose of property.
- 15 8. Prepare and adopt a budget.
- 16 9. Receive and account for funds from ~~authority~~ cooperative members.
- 17 10. Adopt rules.
- 18 11. Make an annual report to each member regarding the budget and expenditures,
- 19 services rendered, program, development plans, audits, and any other information.
- 20 12. Enter into contracts necessary to fulfill this chapter.
- 21 13. Establish and collect rates and charges for services rendered.
- 22 14. Invest excess funds.
- 23 15. Establish special funds.
- 24 16. Join and participate in civic and professional organizations.

25 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-24.3-10 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
26 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

27 **54-24.3-10. ~~Multitype library authority~~ Regional library cooperative members -**
28 **Rights and responsibilities.** All members of a ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library
29 cooperative are entitled to receive supplementary reference services, delivery service for library
30 materials, interlibrary loan services, and assistance with citation and location of materials, and
31 reciprocal borrowing privileges among the users of member libraries. All members of a

~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative shall share resources with the exception that rare or restricted materials may be exempt, implementing use standards and protocols; avail themselves of continuing education and training opportunities provided by the ~~authority~~, cooperative; participate in reference, referral, and interlibrary loan services using communication systems for information exchanged among all types of libraries; maintain total expenditures for library operation, excluding capital improvements, at a level not lower than the preceding fiscal year, or maintain the same or higher mill levy or mill rate equivalency as the preceding fiscal year; and participate in cooperative bibliographic projects.

SECTION 13. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-11 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-11. Voting rights of members. Each academic, institutional, public, school, and special library has one vote on the board of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative. Each operating public school district has one vote on the board of the ~~authority~~ cooperative, and represents all public school media centers located within the district. Private and parochial school media centers located within each public school district are a single entity, and shall elect one voting representative from among themselves.

SECTION 14. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-12 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-12. Withdrawal of membership. To discontinue participation in a ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative, a library ~~authority~~ cooperative member shall ~~obtain a resolution or letter that originally requested membership, and give, in advance, a one-year written notice to the board of the multitype library authority with a copy to cooperative and the statewide North Dakota library planning committee, at least two years before the desired effective date of termination~~ coordinating council. No member may withdraw unless it has been a participant in the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative for at least ~~five~~ two years at the time of termination. The withdrawing member shall return all property of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative.

SECTION 15. AMENDMENT. Section 54-24.3-13 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-24.3-13. ~~Multitype library authority~~ Regional library cooperatives - Operating grants. Each ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative, upon formation, may

1 apply to the ~~statewide library planning committee for a grant to include costs of operation,~~
2 ~~equipment, interlibrary loan reimbursement funding, and any other necessary purpose~~ North
3 Dakota library coordinating council for grant funds available for disbursement by the council.

4 **SECTION 16. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-24.3-14 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
5 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **54-24.3-14. Fiscal controls and reports.** The board of the ~~multitype library authority~~
7 a regional library cooperative shall develop appropriate accounting and record management
8 policies and procedures documenting the operations of the ~~multitype library authority~~
9 cooperative. These policies and procedures must provide that:

- 10 1. All records for the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative and board,
11 including those of the board treasurer, are to be maintained at the ~~authority~~
12 cooperative headquarters.
- 13 2. Copies of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative board minutes
14 are sent to each member library, the North Dakota library coordinating council, and
15 ~~to the statewide library planning committee~~ the state librarian.
- 16 3. The fiscal year runs from July first to June thirtieth and financial records and
17 activities are maintained in accordance with accepted accounting practices. A
18 record of all bills, payments, and receipts must be presented to the ~~multitype~~
19 ~~library authority~~ regional library cooperative board by the treasurer at regular
20 meetings and at any other meeting as required by the board.
- 21 4. An annual report of cooperative operations, including an accounting of all revenues
22 and expenses, must be filed with the North Dakota library coordinating council and
23 the state librarian at the close of each fiscal year.

24 **SECTION 17. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-24.3-15 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
25 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **54-24.3-15. Cooperative services and activities.**

- 27 1. Each ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative shall include as part of
28 its five-year plan for development, provisions for:
 - 29 a. Reference services to supplement those provided by each local library,
30 including interlibrary reference and referral services to residents of the
31 ~~authority~~ cooperative.

- 1 b. Interlibrary loan services on behalf of residents of the ~~authority~~ cooperative.
- 2 c. Delivery services for library materials.
- 3 d. Citation and location services for library materials.
- 4 2. Each ~~multitype library authority~~ cooperative may provide for:
 - 5 a. Consultant services and shared staff expertise;
 - 6 b. Cooperative or coordinated acquisition of library materials or subject
 - 7 specialization programs;
 - 8 c. Reciprocal borrowing between member librarians;
 - 9 d. Staff development and inservice training programs;
 - 10 e. Centralized ordering, cataloging, and processing of the library materials;
 - 11 f. Cooperative storage of library materials and lost-copy protection programs;
 - 12 g. Access to computerized literature citation and information data bases;
 - 13 h. Preservation of library materials programs;
 - 14 i. Public relations services; and
 - 15 j. Any other services not inconsistent with this section.

16 **SECTION 18. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-24.3-16 of the 1995 Supplement to the North
17 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

18 **54-24.3-16. Dissolution of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library**
19 **cooperative.** If the need for a ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative ceases to
20 exist, the board of the ~~multitype library authority~~ may cooperative, by a two-thirds vote of its
21 members, may declare its intent to dissolve the organization and file with the ~~statewide library~~
22 ~~planning committee~~ North Dakota library coordinating council a plan for affecting ~~such the~~
23 dissolution. Upon receipt of the dissolution plan, the ~~committee~~ council shall determine if the
24 area of service can be allocated to other ~~multitype library authorities~~ regional library
25 cooperatives, determine whether the assets and liabilities of the ~~multitype library authority~~
26 regional library cooperative seeking to dissolve can be assumed and absorbed by adjoining
27 ~~multitype library authorities~~ regional library cooperatives, and consider any other factors ~~which~~
28 that relate to the operation and functioning of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library
29 cooperative seeking to dissolve. If the ~~committee~~ council determines that the ~~multitype library~~
30 ~~authority~~ regional library cooperative should be dissolved, the dissolution takes effect when all

1 legal and fiscal obligations of the ~~multitype library authority~~ regional library cooperative have
2 been satisfied.

3 **SECTION 19.** Chapter 54-24.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
4 enacted as follows:

5 **54-24.4-01. North Dakota library coordinating council - Members - Term.** The
6 North Dakota library coordinating council consists of ten members. The president of the North
7 Dakota library association is an ex officio, voting member of the council. The state librarian is
8 an ex officio nonvoting member of the council. The governor shall appoint eight members to
9 the council, one of whom must represent special libraries, one of whom must represent public
10 higher education institution libraries, one of whom must represent private higher education
11 institution libraries, one of whom must represent school libraries, two of whom must represent
12 public libraries, one of whom must represent disabled, economically disadvantaged, and
13 minority populations, and one citizen at large. The governor shall take into account reasonable
14 geographic considerations when appointing members of the council. The term of each member
15 is three years. Of the initial council, three members must be appointed by the governor for a
16 three-year term, three members must be appointed by the governor for a two-year term, and
17 two members must be appointed by the governor for a one-year term. If at any time during a
18 member's term, the member ceases to possess the qualifications required by this section, the
19 member's office is deemed vacant and the governor shall appoint a qualified representative to
20 complete the term of office. No member may be appointed to serve more than two consecutive
21 three-year terms.

22 **54-24.4-02. North Dakota library coordinating council - Compensation and**
23 **expense reimbursement.** Each member of the North Dakota library coordinating council is
24 entitled to receive the same per day compensation as provided for members of the legislative
25 council under section 54-35-10, together with expenses as provided in sections 44-08-04 and
26 54-06-09, while attending meetings or performing duties directed by the council. No
27 compensation may be paid under this section to any council member who receives
28 compensation as a regular state official or employee.

29 **54-24.4-03. North Dakota library coordinating council - Meetings.** The North
30 Dakota library coordinating council shall hold at least one meeting each calendar year for the
31 purpose of awarding grants or contracts. The council shall give notice to the press and the

public of any council meeting at least thirty days in advance of the meeting. Awarding of any grant or contract requires approval by two-thirds of the members of the council.

54-24.4-04. North Dakota library coordinating council - Powers. The North Dakota library coordinating council may elect from its members an executive committee to assist it in performing its duties. The council, in consultation with the state librarian, may request assistance from the staff of the state library in performing its powers and duties.

54-24.4-05. North Dakota library coordinating council - Duties. The North Dakota library coordinating council shall:

1. Assist in planning, coordinating, and evaluating the services and programs of libraries in the state.
2. Serve as the state advisory council on libraries as required by Public Law No. 101-254.
3. Approve the distribution of grants to libraries, except for grants distributed under chapter 54-24.2.
4. Facilitate the development of a comprehensive statewide electronic data base, generate statewide resource sharing, and encourage electronic networking among all types of libraries.
5. Strengthen and support the state library in its role of coordinating the extension and improvement of library services in the state.
6. Strengthen and support regional library cooperatives in extending and improving library services in the state.
7. Inform the public and governing bodies of the goals and objectives of the council and of the role of libraries in assuring equitable access to information technology and basic library services.
8. Support literacy projects for all ages.
9. Facilitate the coordination of statewide library services.
10. Take action necessary to carry out chapter 54-24.3 and this chapter.

SECTION 20. REPEAL. Section 54-24-07 of the North Dakota Century Code and section 54-24.3-02 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION. There is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$55,000, or so

1 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state library for the purpose of connecting library
2 information systems currently operating in the state to allow residents access to library
3 collections included in these systems with one seamless unmediated search, for the biennium
4 beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1999.

5 **SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION.** There is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in
6 the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$70,000, or so
7 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state library for the purpose of providing grants to
8 libraries, schools, or regional library cooperatives to assist them in accessing the internet, for
9 the biennium beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1999. The state library shall
10 distribute the grants to libraries, schools, or regional library cooperatives as directed by the
11 North Dakota library coordinating council. The North Dakota library coordinating council shall
12 award grants based on the following criteria:

- 13 1. A library, school, or regional library cooperative receiving a grant must provide
14 matching funds.
- 15 2. When possible, libraries, schools, and regional library cooperatives should
16 establish partnerships to create and maintain networks.
- 17 3. Projects receiving grants must acknowledge and respond to the needs of the
18 public.
- 19 4. Internet access for public users must be ensured and the network must be
20 accessible, easy to operate, attractive, and well-supported through training,
21 technical support, maintenance, and upgrading of the network and its associated
22 equipment.
- 23 5. The network must be developed and operated with broad participation and input
24 from users.
- 25 6. The network must meet appropriate state, national, and international standards
26 and specifications and have the capability to connect with existing
27 telecommunications systems.