

**Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the  
Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Monday, the sixth day of January,  
one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven**

SENATE BILL NO. 2150  
(Senator G. Nelson)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 54-02-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to permitted uses of the great seal; and to declare an emergency.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-02-01 of the 1995 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**54-02-01. Great seal - Permitted uses - Penalty for commercial use.**

1. The great seal of the state is that prescribed in section 2 of article XI of the Constitution of North Dakota. A description in writing of such seal must be deposited and recorded in the office of the secretary of state and must remain a public record. A reproduction of the great seal may be placed on any official form, document, or stationery of any agency, authority, board, body, branch, bureau, commission, committee, council, department, division, industry, institution, or instrumentality of the state or of any elected or appointed official of the state. A reproduction of the great seal may be placed on business calling cards produced for the use of an elected or appointed state official or state employee regardless of whether the cards are purchased by the official or employee or by the state. Any use of the great seal on any other object or thing by any of the foregoing state entities or officials is prohibited unless approved by the secretary of state; provided, however, that the state historical society and the parks and recreation department may, with the concurrence of the secretary of state, reproduce the great seal on any objects they offer for sale as souvenirs.
2. It is a class B misdemeanor for any person to:
  - a. Place or cause to be placed the great seal, or any reproduction of the great seal, on any political badge, button, insignia, pamphlet, folder, display card, sign, poster, billboard, or on any other public advertisement, or to otherwise use the great seal for any political purpose, as defined in section 16.1-10-02.
  - b. Place or cause to be placed on the great seal, or any reproduction thereof, any advertisement.
  - c. Expose the great seal, or any reproduction thereof, to public view with any advertisement attached thereto.
  - d. Utilize the great seal, or a copy or reproduction thereof, for any commercial purpose.

As used in this subsection, "advertisement" means any printed matter, device, picture, or symbol, no matter how presented to the senses, which informs the public that a good or service is available; and "commercial purpose" means with intent to produce a pecuniary gain through sale of a good or service. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the secretary of state may grant a written request by a private vendor to reproduce official state forms and documents, containing a reproduction of the great seal, for resale to persons intending to submit the forms or documents to any state entity in the regular course of business. The secretary of state may also grant a written request by a publisher, educational institution, or author to reproduce the great seal in any research, reference, or educational publication containing a compilation of the great seals of other states.

**SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2150 and that two-thirds of the members-elect of the Senate voted in favor of said law.

Vote:      Yeas          48              Nays          0              Absent        1

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that two-thirds of the members-elect of the House of Representatives voted in favor of said law.

Vote:      Yeas          90              Nays          1              Absent        6

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 1997.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 1997.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1997,  
at \_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State