

**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**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1021
(Appropriations Committee)
(At the request of the Governor)

AN ACT to make an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the state game and fish department.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the game and fish fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the state game and fish department for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the various divisions of the department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1999, as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Salaries and wages | \$11,292,661 |
| Operating expenses | 7,262,014 |
| Equipment | 638,150 |
| Capital improvements | 898,122 |
| Grants | 2,548,400 |
| Noxious weed control | 200,000 |
| Land habitat and deer depredation | 1,700,000 |
| Wildlife habitat | 1,050,000 |
| Small and big game restoration trust | 400,000 |
| Grants, gifts, and donations | 100,000 |
| Nongame wildlife | 120,000 |
| Waterbank program | 500,000 |
| Lonetree reservoir | <u>966,654</u> |
| Total special funds appropriation | \$27,676,001 |

SECTION 2. HABITAT RESTORATION. The amount of \$1,050,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled wildlife habitat in section 1 of this Act, is from the habitat restoration stamp program fund, to lease privately owned lands for wildlife habitat to reestablish wildlife population for the biennium beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1999. These funds may be spent only for the purposes and using guidelines contained in section 20.1-03-12.1.

SECTION 3. LAND HABITAT AND DEER DEPREDATION. The amount of \$1,000,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled land habitat and deer depredation in section 1 of this Act, is from the private land habitat improvement fund to improve wildlife habitat on private land and alleviate depredation as provided in section 20.1-02-05 for the biennium beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1999.

SECTION 4. NONGAME WILDLIFE. The amount of \$45,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled nongame wildlife in section 1 of this Act, is from the nongame wildlife fund for the purpose of preservation, inventory, perpetuation, and conservation of nongame wildlife, natural areas, and nature preserves in this state for the biennium beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1999.

SECTION 5. SMALL AND BIG GAME RESTORATION FUND. The amount of \$400,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled small and big game restoration trust in section 1 of this Act, is from the small and big game restoration trust fund to improve wildlife habitat on private land for the biennium beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1999.

SECTION 6. WATERBANK PROGRAM. The amount of \$500,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled waterbank program in section 1 of this Act, is from the game and fish department operating fund and shall be used to increase water storage and enhance wildlife habitat in North Dakota. Priority shall be given to contracts to increase upper basin storage and enhance wildlife habitat in the Devils Lake basin. Contracts and agreements relating to the waterbank program may be entered into by the director of the game and fish department, in cooperation with the commissioner of agriculture.

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 Fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1021.

House Vote: Yeas 71 Nays 24 Absent 2

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 3

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