

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with Conference Committee Amendments**

Fifty-sixth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2355**

Introduced by

Senators Solberg, Christmann, Kinnoin

Representatives Brusegaard, Kempenich, Solberg

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 11-33-02 and 58-03-11 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to zoning regarding farming and ranching.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 11-33-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **11-33-02. Board of county commissioners to designate districts.**

- 7 1. For any or all of the purposes designated in section 11-33-01, the board of county  
8 commissioners may divide by resolution ~~divide~~ all or any parts of the county,  
9 subject to ~~the provisions of~~ section 11-33-20, into districts of such number, shape,  
10 and area as may be ~~deemed~~ determined necessary, and ~~may~~ likewise may enact  
11 suitable regulations to carry out the purposes of this chapter. These regulations  
12 ~~shall~~ must be uniform in each district, but the regulations in one district may differ  
13 from those in other districts. ~~No A regulation or restriction, however, shall~~ may not  
14 prohibit or prevent the use of land or buildings for farming or ranching or any of the  
15 normal incidents of farming. ~~The provisions of this~~ or ranching. For purposes of  
16 this section, "farming or ranching" means cultivating land for production of  
17 agricultural crops or livestock, or raising, feeding, or producing livestock, poultry,  
18 milk, or fruit. The term does not include producing timber or forest products, nor  
19 does the term include a contract whereby a processor or distributor of farm  
20 products or supplies provides grain, harvesting, or other farm services.
- 21 2. A board of county commissioners may regulate the nature and scope of  
22 concentrated feeding operations permissible in the county; however, if a regulation  
23 would impose a substantial economic burden on a concentrated feeding operation  
24 in existence before the effective date of the regulation, the board of county

- 1           commissioners shall declare that the regulation is ineffective with respect to any  
2           concentrated feeding operation in existence before the effective date of the  
3           regulation.
- 4           3. A regulation may not preclude the development of a concentrated feeding  
5           operation in the county. A regulation addressing the development of a  
6           concentrated feeding operation in the county may set reasonable standards, based  
7           on the size of the operation, to govern its location.
- 8           4. For purposes of this section, "concentrated feeding operation" means any livestock  
9           feeding, handling, or holding operation, or feed yard, where animals are  
10           concentrated in an area that is not normally used for pasture or for growing crops  
11           and in which animal wastes may accumulate, or in an area where the space per  
12           animal unit is less than six hundred square feet [55.74 square meters]. The term  
13           does not include normal wintering operations for cattle. For purposes of this  
14           section, "livestock" includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, horses,  
15           and fur animals raised for their pelts.
- 16           5. A board of county commissioners may not prohibit, through regulation, the  
17           reasonable diversification or expansion of a farming or ranching operation.
- 18           6. This chapter shall does not be construed to include any power relating to the  
19           establishment, repair, and maintenance of highways or roads.

20           **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 58-03-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22           **58-03-11. Establishment of zoning districts - Limitation - Scope of zoning**  
23 **regulations and restrictions.**

- 24           1. For the purpose of promoting the health, safety, morals, or the general welfare, or  
25           to secure the orderly development of approaches to municipalities, the board of  
26           township supervisors may establish one or more zoning districts and within such  
27           districts may, subject to the provisions of chapter 54-21.3, regulate and restrict the  
28           erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, or use of buildings and  
29           structures, the height, number of stories, and size of buildings and structures, the  
30           percentage of lot that may be occupied, the size of courts, yards, and other open  
31           spaces, the density of population, and the location and use of buildings, structures,

1 and land for trade, industry, residence, or other purposes. All such regulations and  
2 restrictions must be uniform throughout each district, but the regulations and  
3 restrictions in one district may differ from those in other districts.

4 2. No A regulation or restriction, however, may not prohibit or prevent the use of land  
5 or buildings for farming or ranching or any of the normal incidents of farming.—The  
6 provisions of sections or ranching. For purposes of this section, "farming or  
7 ranching" means cultivating land for production of agricultural crops or livestock, or  
8 raising, feeding, or producing livestock, poultry, milk, or fruit. The term does not  
9 include producing timber or forest products, nor does the term include a contract  
10 whereby a processor or distributor of farm products or supplies provides grain,  
11 harvesting, or other farm services.

12 3. A board of township supervisors may regulate the nature and scope of  
13 concentrated feeding operations permissible in the township; however, if a  
14 regulation would impose a substantial economic burden on a concentrated feeding  
15 operation in existence before the effective date of the regulation, the board of  
16 township supervisors shall declare that the regulation is ineffective with respect to  
17 any concentrated feeding operation in existence before the effective date of the  
18 regulation.

19 4. A regulation may not preclude the development of a concentrated feeding  
20 operation in the township. A regulation addressing the development of a  
21 concentrated feeding operation in the township may set reasonable standards,  
22 based on the size of the operation, to govern its location.

23 5. For purposes of this section, "concentrated feeding operation" means any livestock  
24 feeding, handling, or holding operation, or feed yard, where animals are  
25 concentrated in an area that is not normally used for pasture or for growing crops  
26 and in which animal wastes may accumulate, or in an area where the space per  
27 animal unit is less than six hundred square feet [55.74 square meters]. The term  
28 does not include normal wintering operations for cattle. For purposes of this  
29 section, "livestock" includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, horses,  
30 and fur animals raised for their pelts.

- 1           6.    A board of township supervisors may not prohibit, through regulation, the  
2                    reasonable diversification or expansion of a farming or ranching operation.
- 3           7.    Sections 58-03-11 through 58-03-15 may do not be construed to include any  
4                    power relating to the establishment, repair, and maintenance of highways or roads.