10568.0300

Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

REENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2216

Introduced by

Senators Wanzek, Tomac

Representatives D. Johnson, Mueller

- 1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 6-09.10-03 of the North Dakota Century Code,
- 2 relating to the expiration date for the North Dakota agricultural mediation service; and to
- 3 declare an emergency.

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

- 5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-09.10-03 of the 1999 Supplement to the North 6 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:
- 7 6-09.10-03. North Dakota agricultural mediation service Powers Compensation
- 8 and expenses Fees. The board shall meet at the call of the chair, as is necessary to fulfill its
- 9 duties under this chapter. The agriculture commissioner shall administer the agricultural
- 10 mediation service. The commissioner shall establish an agricultural mediation service to
- 11 disseminate information to farmers concerning farm credit problems and to provide assistance
- 12 to seek to resolve farm credit problems. The commissioner shall appoint an administrator of
- 13 the agricultural mediation service. The commissioner shall hire staff, negotiators, and
- 14 mediators who may mediate disputes involving farmers and others, either of whom may request
- 15 assistance. The board may charge the farmer and others a reasonable fee for any assistance,
- 16 provided the fees are used to continue the service until June 30, 2001. Fees charged to the
- 17 farmer's creditors are limited to twenty-five dollars per hour, each, for the time spent in
- 18 mediation sessions. The board shall adopt policies governing the negotiators, staff, and
- 19 mediators hired under this section. Board members are entitled to receive sixty-five dollars for
- 20 each day of official service, as directed by the board. The board members are entitled to
- 21 expenses as provided in sections 44-08-04 and 54-06-09. The expenses provided under this
- 22 section may be paid from any funds available in the home-quarter purchase fund.
- 23 **SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.