

**Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2003**

SENATE BILL NO. 2278  
(Senators Fischer, Heitkamp, Urlacher)  
(Representatives Hanson, Koppelman, Nelson)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 61-16.1-09.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to maintenance of natural watercourses and debrisment of bridges and low water crossings.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-16.1-09.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**61-16.1-09.1. Watercourses, bridges, and low water crossings.**

1. A water resource board may undertake the snagging, clearing, and maintaining of natural watercourses and the debrisment of bridges and low water crossings. The board may finance the project in whole or in part with funds raised through the collection of a special assessment levied against the land and premises ~~within the watershed~~ benefited by the project. All provisions of this chapter apply to assessments levied under this section except:
  - 1- a. An assessment may not exceed fifty cents per acre [.40 hectare] annually on agricultural lands and may not exceed fifty cents annually for each five hundred dollars of taxable valuation of nonagricultural property; and
  - 2- b. If the assessment is for a project costing less than one hundred thousand dollars, no action is required for the establishment of the assessment district or the assessments except the board must approve the project and assessment by a vote of two-thirds of the members and the board of county commissioners of the county must approve and levy the assessments to be made by a vote of two-thirds of its members.
  - c. All revenue from an assessment under this section must be exhausted before a subsequent assessment covering any portion of lands subject to a prior assessment may be levied.
2. Before an assessment may be levied under this section, a public hearing must be held attended by a quorum of the board and a quorum of the board of county commissioners. The hearing must be preceded by notice as to date, time, location, and subject matter published in the official newspaper in the county or counties in which the proposed assessment is to be levied. The notice must be published at least ten days but not more than thirty days before the public hearing.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

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

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Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2278.

Senate Vote:    Yeas    46        Nays    0        Absent    1

House Vote:    Yeas    89        Nays    5        Absent    0

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

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2003.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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