

**SECOND ENGROSSMENT  
with Conference Committee Amendments**

**REENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1088**

Introduced by

Judiciary Committee

(At the request of the Supreme Court)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact three new sections to chapter 27-05.2 of the North  
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to establishment of a court facilities improvement and  
3 maintenance fund and court facilities improvement advisory committee; to amend and reenact  
4 sections 12-48-15, 12-48.1-03, 29-26-22, 39-08-20, and 51-04-03.1 of the North Dakota  
5 Century Code, relating to court administration fees; and to provide a continuing appropriation.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 12-48-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **12-48-15. Disposition of moneys earned - Warden to keep account of money**  
10 **earned by inmates - Investment in interest-bearing accounts.**

- 11 1. The warden of the penitentiary shall keep an account for each inmate. Not more  
12 than fifty percent of an inmate's penitentiary earnings, as provided by penitentiary  
13 rules, must be withheld from an inmate and deposited in a separate account for the  
14 inmate and may not be made available to the inmate until the inmate's release  
15 from the penitentiary, except as authorized by the warden. The remainder of an  
16 inmate's earnings must be made available to the inmate on a regular basis.
- 17 2. Inmates may, in writing, authorize the warden or designee to deposit any of their  
18 accumulated earnings from the prison industries, hobby, work release, or any other  
19 prison program in an interest-earning account in the Bank of North Dakota for the  
20 benefit of the inmate. The account must be a two-signature account requiring the  
21 inmate's signature and that of an authorized designated officer or employee of the  
22 state penitentiary for withdrawal.
- 23 3. The warden may directly deposit an inmate's funds from sources outside of the  
24 penitentiary in any bank or account the inmate may designate. If a court order

- 1 does not allow an inmate to designate a bank or account other than a Bank of  
2 North Dakota account or if it is necessary for the benefit and protection of the  
3 inmate, the warden, upon written explanation to the inmate, shall deposit an  
4 inmate's funds from sources outside the penitentiary into a Bank of North Dakota  
5 account. The department of corrections and rehabilitation and its divisions,  
6 departments, officers, and employees may not be held responsible or liable for any  
7 inmate income or funds deposited into a bank or account designated by an inmate.
- 8 4. The warden is responsible for guiding inmates in making proper use of their funds  
9 to pay their obligations, including the payment of ~~court costs~~ any administration  
10 fee, court-appointed counsel fees, court-ordered restitution, support for dependent  
11 relatives, or to provide for their own medical, surgical, eye care, or dental treatment  
12 or services not generally provided by the state. The warden may withdraw funds  
13 from an inmate's penitentiary account or Bank of North Dakota two-signature  
14 account, without the inmate's signature, to meet the inmate's legitimate financial  
15 obligations. Before the funds may be withdrawn, the inmate must first receive  
16 written notice and be provided a penitentiary administrative hearing with the right  
17 to penitentiary staff assistance and the right to appeal to the director of the  
18 department of corrections and rehabilitation. An inmate is not entitled to prior  
19 written notice, administrative hearing, or right to an appeal to the department of  
20 corrections and rehabilitation when funds are to be withdrawn for payment of a  
21 court-ordered obligation, including child support, provided the inmate has had  
22 notice and an opportunity to be heard in the court proceedings.
- 23 5. The warden may pay an inmate all funds in the inmate's account, less the inmate's  
24 outstanding obligations to the penitentiary, when the inmate is transferred to a  
25 county jail or regional correctional center or placed in community corrections  
26 confinement. The warden shall pay an inmate all funds in the inmate's account  
27 less the inmate's outstanding obligations to the penitentiary when the inmate is  
28 transferred to a correctional facility outside of this state, released on parole, or  
29 discharged from the penitentiary.

30 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 12-48.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
31 amended and reenacted as follows:

1           **12-48.1-03. Use of funds earned on work release.** The plan for the inmate shall  
2 provide that any funds earned in outside employment will be used in the following order: for  
3 necessary expenses of the inmate, including room and board costs of the institution; ~~cost~~  
4 ~~costs~~ or any administration fee and fine; restitution if a part of the sentence; necessary support  
5 of dependents; and credited to inmate's personal account to be paid the inmate on release.

6           **SECTION 3.** A new section to chapter 27-05.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 created and enacted as follows:

8           **Court facilities improvement and maintenance fund - Administration - Continuing**  
9 **appropriation.** The court facilities improvement and maintenance fund is a special fund in the  
10 state treasury. The state treasurer shall deposit in the fund certain fees collected under section  
11 29-26-22. All moneys in the fund are appropriated on a continuing basis to be used as  
12 provided in this chapter.

13           **SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 27-05.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
14 created and enacted as follows:

15           **Court facilities improvement advisory committee - Members.**

- 16           1. The court facilities improvement advisory committee consists of:
- 17           a. One member appointed by the North Dakota association of counties to  
18           represent counties with a population fewer than seven thousand five hundred.
  - 19           b. One member appointed by the North Dakota association of counties to  
20           represent counties with a population of seven thousand five hundred or more.
  - 21           c. One member, who shall serve as chairman of the committee, appointed by  
22           the chief justice of the supreme court.
  - 23           d. One member appointed by the state bar association of North Dakota.
  - 24           e. One member appointed by the chairman of the legislative council.
- 25           2. The term of each member is three years. Initially, as determined by lot, one  
26 member shall serve for one year, two members shall serve for two years, and two  
27 members shall serve for three years. At the end of the member's term, the  
28 appointing authority shall appoint a successor for a full three-year term. A member  
29 may not serve more than two 3-year terms. A vacancy must be filled by the  
30 appointing authority for the remainder of the term.

1           3. At the initial meeting of the committee, the committee shall adopt rules of operation  
2           and procedure for the committee. The committee shall submit the rules to the  
3           supreme court for approval. The rules of operation must provide that a quorum of  
4           the committee consists of at least four members.

5           4. The members of the committee are entitled to reimbursement for travel and  
6           expenses as provided by law for other state officers. Travel and expense costs  
7           must be paid from funds from the court facilities improvement and maintenance  
8           fund.

9           5. The supreme court shall provide staff services for the committee.

10          **SECTION 5.** A new section to chapter 27-05.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
11 created and enacted as follows:

12           **Application for grants from court facilities improvement and maintenance fund.**

13 Moneys in the court facilities improvement and maintenance fund may be used by the court  
14 facilities improvement advisory committee to make grants to counties to provide funds for court  
15 facilities improvement and maintenance projects. The committee shall review applications to  
16 determine if the purpose of a grant is consistent with the purposes of the fund and if the  
17 proposed project is a necessary improvement to court facilities or essential to remodel or  
18 maintain existing court facilities in the applicant county. A grant may be awarded to a county  
19 only if the applicant county agrees to provide local funding for the project in an amount at least  
20 equal to twenty-five percent of the total cost of the project. The committee shall ensure that at  
21 least twenty-five percent of funds granted during a biennium are allocated to counties with a  
22 population fewer than seven thousand five hundred. Grants disbursed under this section may  
23 be used only to improve or provide essential remodeling or maintenance to facilities used for  
24 chambers, courts, and court-related services.

25          **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 29-26-22 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
26 amended and reenacted as follows:

27          ~~29-26-22. Judgment for fines, costs, and court administration fee - Statement to~~  
28 ~~be filed by court~~ **Special fund - Docketing and enforcement.** In all criminal cases except  
29 infractions, upon a plea or finding of guilt, a the court shall impose a court administration fee in  
30 lieu of the assessment of court costs. The court administration fee must include a fee of up to  
31 ~~thirty percent of the maximum allowable fine for the offense may be taxed against the~~

1 ~~defendant in lieu of the assessment of court costs~~ one hundred twenty-five dollars for a class B  
2 misdemeanor, two hundred dollars for a class A misdemeanor, four hundred dollars for a class  
3 C felony, six hundred fifty dollars for a class B felony, and nine hundred dollars for a class A or  
4 AA felony. ~~If the court does assess costs as part of its sentence, the court shall include in the~~  
5 ~~judgment the facts justifying the amount assessed.~~ In addition, in all criminal cases except  
6 infractions, the court administration fee must include one hundred dollars. Of the additional one  
7 hundred dollar court administration fee, the first seven hundred fifty thousand dollars collected  
8 per biennium must be deposited in the indigent defense administration fund, which must be  
9 used to contract for indigent defense services in this state, and the next four hundred sixty  
10 thousand dollars collected per biennium must be deposited in the court facilities improvement  
11 and maintenance fund. After the minimum thresholds have been collected, one-half of the  
12 additional court administration fee must be deposited in each fund. A court may waive the  
13 administration fee upon a showing of indigency as provided in section 25-03.1-13. District court  
14 ~~costs~~, administration fees, exclusive of amounts deposited in the indigent defense  
15 administration fund and the court facilities and improvement fund, and forfeitures must be  
16 deposited in the state general fund. A judgment that the defendant pay a fine, ~~costs~~, or court  
17 administration fee, or ~~any combination thereof~~ both, may be docketed, and ~~thereafter if~~  
18 docketed constitutes a lien upon the real estate of the defendant in like manner as a judgment  
19 for money rendered in a civil action. The court may allow the defendant to pay any assessed  
20 ~~costs or administrative~~ administration fee in installments. When a defendant is assessed ~~costs~~  
21 ~~or administrative~~ administration fees, the court may not impose at the same time an alternative  
22 sentence to be served if the ~~costs~~ fees are not paid.

23 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-08-20 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
24 amended and reenacted as follows:

25 **39-08-20. Driving without liability insurance prohibited - Penalty.**

26 1. A person may not drive, or the owner may not cause or knowingly permit to be  
27 driven, a motor vehicle in this state without a valid policy of liability insurance in  
28 effect in order to respond in damages for liability arising out of the ownership,  
29 maintenance, or use of that motor vehicle in the amount required by chapter  
30 39-16.1. Upon being stopped by a law enforcement officer for the purpose of  
31 enforcing or investigating the possible violation of an ordinance or state law or

- 1 during the investigation of an accident, the person driving the motor vehicle shall  
2 provide to the officer upon request satisfactory evidence of the policy required  
3 under this section. If unable to comply with the request, that person may be  
4 charged with a violation of this section if that person fails to submit satisfactory  
5 evidence of the policy to the officer or the officer's agency within twenty days of the  
6 date of the request. If that person produces a valid policy of liability insurance in  
7 effect at the time of violation of this section to the officer, officer's agency, or a  
8 court, that person may not be convicted or assessed any ~~court costs~~  
9 administration fee for violation of this section. If the driver is not an owner of the  
10 motor vehicle, the driver does not violate this section if the driver provides the court  
11 with evidence identifying the owner of the motor vehicle and describing  
12 circumstances under which the owner caused or permitted the driver to drive the  
13 motor vehicle. Violation of this section is a class B misdemeanor and the sentence  
14 imposed must include a fine of at least one hundred fifty dollars which may not be  
15 suspended. A person convicted for a second or subsequent violation of driving  
16 without liability insurance within an eighteen-month period must be fined at least  
17 three hundred dollars which may not be suspended.
- 18 2. Upon conviction for a violation of this section or equivalent ordinance, the person  
19 who has been convicted shall provide proof of motor vehicle liability insurance to  
20 the department in the form of a written or electronically transmitted certificate from  
21 an insurance carrier authorized to do business in this state. This proof must be  
22 provided for a period of three years and kept on file with the department. If the  
23 person fails to provide this information, the department shall suspend that person's  
24 driving privileges and may not issue or renew that person's operator's license  
25 unless that person provides proof of insurance.
- 26 3. A person who has been convicted for violation of this section or equivalent  
27 ordinance shall surrender that person's operator's license and purchase a  
28 duplicate operator's license with a notation requiring that person to keep proof of  
29 liability insurance on file with the department. The fee for this license is fifty dollars  
30 and the fee to remove this notation is fifty dollars.

1           4.    When an insurance carrier has certified a motor vehicle liability policy, the  
2                   insurance carrier shall notify the director no later than ten days after cancellation or  
3                   termination of the certified insurance policy by filing a notice of cancellation or  
4                   termination of the certified insurance policy; except that a policy subsequently  
5                   procured and certified shall, on the effective date of its certification, terminate the  
6                   insurance previously certified with respect to any motor vehicle designated in both  
7                   certificates.

8           **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 51-04-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10           **51-04-03.1. License to be carried by licensee and exhibited on demand.** Every  
11 transient merchant licensed under this chapter shall have the license in immediate possession  
12 at all times when engaging in or transacting any business regulated by this chapter. The  
13 licensee shall display the license when requested to do so by any court, law enforcement  
14 official, peace officer, or consumer. However, a person charged with violating this requirement  
15 may not be convicted, fined, or assessed ~~court costs~~ the administration fee if the license is  
16 produced in court or to the arresting officer and if the license was valid at the time of the arrest.