

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1209
with Conference Committee Amendments**

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Introduced by

Representatives Mueller, Boe, Devlin, Headland, Herbel, Onstad

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative council study of the property tax system.

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

3 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM.** The
4 legislative council shall consider studying, during the 2005-06 interim, the property tax system
5 of the state. The study must include all of the following:

- 6 1. Analysis of the property tax administration system from the assessment level
- 7 through the state board of equalization.
- 8 2. Examination of the checks in the property tax administration system for
- 9 reconsideration and correction of errors.
- 10 3. Analysis of the appropriate level of government for making property assessments.
- 11 4. Methods to assure uniformity and equity among assessment and taxing districts in
- 12 spreading property tax burdens as provided by law.
- 13 5. Examination of existing processes to challenge property tax assessment and levy
- 14 decisions, including analysis of the accessibility of the system for a citizen to
- 15 mount a challenge.
- 16 6. Analysis of how budgets are determined by political subdivisions and whether levy
- 17 limitations have an unintended influence on budget decisions.
- 18 7. Analysis of property tax allocation and assessments among the classifications of
- 19 property and the shifting of property tax burdens among property types that occurs
- 20 because of assessment changes.
- 21 8. Analysis of the use of variables to valuation standards by local assessment
- 22 officials.
- 23 9. Analysis of the frequency of reassessment and problems that arise if assessments
- 24 are not kept current.

Fifty-ninth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 10. Analysis of whether there are aspects of existing law that provide incentives or
- 2 opportunities for distortion of assessments for property tax or other purposes.
- 3 The legislative council shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any
- 4 legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixtieth legislative assembly.