

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Conference Committee Amendments****ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2361**

Introduced by

Senators Dever, Erbele, Mathern

Representatives L. Meier, Sandvig, Sitte

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 14-03-22 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to marriage license fees; and to provide for a legislative council study.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-03-22 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **14-03-22. Marriage license fee - Supplemental fee - Fee for marriage ceremony -**
7 **Duties of officers.**

- 8 1. For the issuance and filing of a marriage license, the recorder, unless the board of
9 county commissioners designates a different official, shall collect ~~the sum~~ a fee of
10 six up to thirty dollars from the party applying for the license. ~~The~~
- 11 2. In addition to the license fee provided for in subsection 1, the recorder, or
12 designated official, shall also collect from the applicant a supplemental fee of
13 twenty-nine thirty-five dollars for aid to victims of domestic violence through the
14 domestic violence prevention fund in accordance with chapter 14-07.1.
- 15 3. For performing a marriage ceremony during regular courthouse hours, the
16 recorder, or designated official, shall collect a fee of thirty dollars which is to be
17 retained by the county. If the marriage ceremony is performed at a time other than
18 during regular courthouse hours, the recorder, or designated official, may collect
19 and retain a fee in an amount to be determined by the recorder, or designated
20 official.
- 21 4. Except as provided in this section, all collected fees must be deposited monthly
22 with the county treasurer. The county treasurer shall forward the amount
23 represented by supplemental fees to the state treasurer by the fifteenth of each
24 month for crediting to the domestic violence prevention fund.

1 5. The recorder, or designated official, shall prepare a copy of the license and
2 certificate and transmit them to the registrar of vital statistics who shall record them
3 in a book of records kept in the registrar's office for that purpose. The registrar
4 shall index the records and upon request shall issue certified copies of the
5 recorded license and certificate for a one dollar fee. The registrar shall keep an
6 accurate account of these fees and shall turn them over to the state treasurer by
7 the fifteenth of each month for crediting to the general fund.

8 **SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - MARRIAGE LAWS.** The legislative
9 council shall consider studying, during the 2005-06 interim, the state's marriage laws and
10 methods for strengthening the institution of marriage in the state, including premarital
11 requirements, such as marital education and counseling, waiting periods, and marital blood
12 tests; the availability of marriage counseling and parenting education in the state; and the
13 implementation of predivorce requirements, such as divorce-effects education. The legislative
14 council shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to
15 implement the recommendations, to the sixtieth legislative assembly.