

Introduced by

Senator J. Lee

Representative Price

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23-01 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to creation of a health information technology steering committee; and to  
3 provide an appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 23-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **North Dakota health information steering committee - Grants.**

8 1. The North Dakota health information steering committee consists of the state  
9 health officer, the governor or the governor's designee, the executive director of  
10 the department of human services or the executive director's designee, individuals  
11 appointed by the governor to represent state government interests, and individuals  
12 appointed by the state health officer to represent health information technology  
13 stakeholders, which may include:

14 a. Rural and urban health care facilities and organizations;

15 b. Rural communities;

16 c. Technology businesses;

17 d. Clinics;

18 e. Academic and research institutions;

19 f. The federal government;

20 g. Physicians;

21 h. Rural physicians;

22 i. Quality improvement organizations;

23 j. Third-party payers;

24 k. Health information management;

- 1            l. Consumers;  
2            m. The North Dakota healthcare association; and  
3            n. The North Dakota medical association.
- 4            2. Steering committee members appointed by the governor serve at the pleasure of  
5            the governor. Steering committee members appointed by the state health officer  
6            serve at the pleasure of the state health officer and may represent one or more  
7            interests. The state health officer may appoint more than one individual to  
8            represent a single interest. The state department of health shall provide or arrange  
9            for administrative services to assist the steering committee.
- 10          3. The steering committee shall make recommendations for implementing a statewide  
11          interoperable health information infrastructure that is consistent with emerging  
12          national standards and promotes interoperability of health information systems for  
13          the purpose of improving health care quality, patient safety, and overall efficiency  
14          of health care and public health services. The steering committee shall develop a  
15          grant program that will fund collaborative health information technology projects  
16          that will support health care providers in planning and implementing interoperable  
17          health information technology systems. The steering committee may accept and  
18          expend contributions, gifts, and grants from the federal government, private  
19          industry, and other sources and may enter contracts for purposes consistent with  
20          this section.

21            **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the  
22            general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, or so much  
23            of the sum as may be necessary, to the state department of health for the purpose of defraying  
24            the costs of the North Dakota health information technology steering committee and associated  
25            grants, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2009.