

HOUSE BILL NO. 1250

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, Aarsvold, D. Johnson

Senators Klein, Wanzek

1 A BILL for an Act to provide a grant program to assist in raising new or nontraditional crops; and
2 to provide an appropriation.

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

4 **SECTION 1. New or nontraditional crop grant program.** During the 2007-09
5 biennium, the department of commerce shall provide incentive grants to farmers who propose
6 raising new or nontraditional crops. The department of commerce shall use an application
7 process to determine the grant recipients. The grants must be in the amount of one hundred
8 dollars per acre and no recipient may receive more than five thousand dollars. Recipients may
9 use the grants for seed purchases, equipment purchases, marketing, and other startup costs or
10 investments associated with the raising of a new or nontraditional crop. As a condition of the
11 grant, each recipient must agree to provide to the department data regarding experiences with
12 the crop's growability and marketability and any other information the department might request
13 regarding the crop's potential for success in this state. For purposes of this section, a "new or
14 nontraditional crop" includes fruit, vegetables, and any other specialty crops not commonly
15 grown in the state.

16 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
17 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$200,000, or so much
18 of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of providing
19 incentive grants to farmers to assist in raising new or nontraditional crops, for the biennium
20 beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2009.