

**SENATE BILL NO. 2127**

Introduced by

Agriculture Committee

(At the request of the Bank of North Dakota)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 54-17-34 and section  
2 54-17-34.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to definitions and financing under the  
3 first-time farmer finance program.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 2 of section 54-17-34 of the North Dakota  
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 2. "Substantial farmland" means any parcel of land unless the parcel is smaller than  
8 thirty percent of the median size of a farm in the county in which the parcel is  
9 located ~~and does not at any time while held by the individual have a fair market~~  
10 ~~value in excess of one hundred twenty five thousand dollars.~~

11 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-17-34.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **54-17-34.2. First-time farmer participation.** The first-time farmer finance program is  
14 limited as required by applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and any  
15 regulations adopted thereunder, as amended, and under the first-time farmer finance program:

16 1. Financing may not be made to individuals with a net worth ~~of more than two~~  
17 ~~hundred thousand dollars;~~ that exceeds the net worth requirement of the beginning  
18 farmer revolving loan program administered by the Bank of North Dakota and  
19 established by loan policy; and

20 2. ~~Financing may not be made to an individual in an aggregate amount in excess of~~  
21 ~~two hundred fifty thousand dollars; and~~

22 3. Financing may only be made to first-time farmers for the acquisition of land in the  
23 state of North Dakota, livestock, farm improvements, and equipment to be used for

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- 1 farming purposes and may not exceed an amount established under the Internal
- 2 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.