

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Workforce Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to creation of a technology impact zone program; to provide a continuing
3 appropriation; to provide an effective date; and to provide an expiration date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Technology impact zones - Continuing appropriation.**

8 1. The department shall administer a technology impact zone program to provide
9 financial support for regional technology-based economic development efforts. The
10 program shall provide a qualified technology impact zone with a state sales and use
11 tax reimbursement that equals the authorized zone award amount.

12 2. An applicant may qualify under the program as follows:

13 a. The applicant must be one or more cities or counties working together for
14 purposes of the technology-based economic development efforts.

15 b. The boundaries of a technology impact zone must encompass the geographical
16 boundaries of the applicant cities and counties.

17 c. The applicant shall establish the availability of matching funds equal to the
18 amount of the authorized zone award amount.

19 d. The applicant may apply with a local governmental or nonprofit local economic
20 development organization.

21 e. An applicant and any local governmental or nonprofit local economic
22 development organization that is a party to the application shall agree to the
23 terms of the zone award.

24 f. The applicant shall meet qualifying requirements established by the department.

- 1 3. An award received by an applicant under this section:
 - 2 a. Must be used to support regional technology-based economic development
3 initiatives that do not include regular operational funding;
 - 4 b. Must be used in a manner that aligns with the North Dakota economic
5 development foundation's strategic plan for economic development;
 - 6 c. Must be consistent with the plan established in the application; and
 - 7 d. May be distributed to a local governmental or nonprofit local economic
8 development organization that is a party to the application.
- 9 4. In considering whether to grant an applicant technology impact zone status, the
10 department shall take into consideration whether the technology-based economic
11 development efforts are significantly supported by an institution of higher education
12 under the control of the state board of higher education.
- 13 5. Upon granting a zone an award under this section, the department shall notify the tax
14 commissioner of the agreement and the identity of the cities and counties in the zone.
- 15 6. An applicant granted zone status under this section is limited to a lifetime cap of
16 receipt of three million dollars of state matching funds.
- 17 7. During the 2013-15 biennium, the department may award no more than four applicants
18 zone status under this section. The department may award no more than a total of
19 eight applicants zone status.
- 20 8. Distribution of state sales and use tax revenue to a technology impact zone, up to the
21 amount awarded by the department, is calculated and made as follows:
 - 22 a. On or before February 29, 2012, and the last day of February of each
23 subsequent year, the tax commissioner shall determine, based on the best
24 information available, and certify to the state treasurer an amount for payment to
25 a technology impact zone identified in subsection 5 equal to the sales and use
26 tax revenue generated by the cities and counties in the zone during the last six
27 months of the previous calendar year. The state treasurer shall pay the
28 distribution amount to the technology impact zone on or before March 31, 2012,
29 and March thirty-first of each subsequent year.
 - 30 b. On or before August 31, 2012, and August thirty-first of each subsequent year,
31 the tax commissioner shall determine, based on the best information available,

1 and certify to the state treasurer an amount for payment to a technology impact
2 zone identified in subsection 5 equal to the sales and use tax revenue generated
3 by the cities and counties in the zone during the first six months of the current
4 calendar year. The state treasurer shall pay the distribution amount to the
5 technology impact zone on or before September 30, 2012, and September
6 thirtieth of each subsequent year.

7 c. The amounts necessary to make a distribution payment is appropriated to the
8 state treasurer as a standing and continuing appropriation for distribution under
9 this section. The source of moneys distributed under this section is all moneys
10 collected and deposited in the general fund as provided in section 57-39.2-26.

11 **SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE - EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective for taxable
12 events beginning after June 30, 2011, and through June 30, 2023, and after that date is
13 ineffective.