

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1338**

Introduced by

Representatives Brandenburg, Froseth, Heller, Kasper, Kreidt, Kretschmar, Rohr, Schmidt,  
Onstad

Senators Schaible, Unruh, Warner

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for the return of certain property managed by the United States  
2 army ~~corp~~corps of engineers to the ~~neighboring landowners~~state of North Dakota.

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

4 **SECTION 1.**

5 **Return of land to ~~landowners~~state.**

6 The governor shall negotiate with representatives of the United States army corps of  
7 engineers for the return of excess lands outside the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian  
8 Reservation around Lake Sakakawea above elevation 1,854 feet [565.01 meters] mean sea  
9 level and excess lands outside the boundaries of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation around  
10 Lake Oahe above ~~1,617~~1,620 feet [~~492.86~~493.86 meters] mean sea level to the ~~neighboring-~~  
11 ~~landowners~~state of North Dakota. Any agreement for the return of lands described under this  
12 section must include provisions for the protection of native cultural and religious sites, artifacts,  
13 and human remains. The governor may support tribal efforts in negotiating with the United  
14 States army corps of engineers. The governor shall report on the status of negotiations to the  
15 budget section of the legislative management by December 31, 2014.