

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1405**

Introduced by

Representatives Schneider, P. Anderson, Boschee, Delmore, Dobervich, Guggisberg, Hogan, Mitskog

Senators Nelson, Oban

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 54-34.3-10 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to the commission on the status of women.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-34.3-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **54-34.3-10. Commission on the status of women - Appointment - Expenses - Duties.**

7 1. There is established a commission on the status of women. This commission consists  
8 of five members. The governor shall appoint each member for a term of four years,  
9 staggered so that the term of at least one member expires July first of each year. A  
10 vacancy occurring other than by reason of the expiration of a term must be filled in the  
11 same manner as original appointments, except that the appointment may be made for  
12 only the remainder of the unexpired term.

13 2. The members are entitled to be paid for mileage and actual expenses incurred in  
14 attending meetings and in performance of their official duties in amounts provided by  
15 law for other state officers and employees.

16 3. This commission shall ~~coordinate~~:

17 a. Coordinate activities and serve as a clearinghouse and an advisory group to the  
18 division for information relating to economic development programs that focus on  
19 career development for women. ~~This commission shall prepare~~

20 b. Bring together representatives of business, labor, education, and other groups  
21 and individuals who have experience and expertise in the collection and analysis  
22 of employment and pay data to:

- 1           (1) Assess public and private pay disparities between men and women  
2           employed in the state;
- 3           (2) Determine the factors causing pay disparities, including payment of lower  
4           wages for occupations traditionally dominated by women and minorities,  
5           segregation of women and men, pregnancy-related needs, childrearing or  
6           caregiving responsibilities, and education and training;
- 7           (3) Determine the consequences of pay disparities on the economy and  
8           impacted families;
- 9           (4) Propose legislation to lead to the elimination and prevention of the identified  
10          disparities; and
- 11          (5) Provide advocacy, education, and legislative initiatives to eliminate the  
12          identified disparities.
- 13          c. Create, coordinate, and work with private and public sector individuals and  
14          groups to provide advice and education related to the future economic status of  
15          women including:
  - 16               (1) Access to educational opportunities in the fields of science, technology,  
17               engineering, and math;
  - 18               (2) Entrepreneurial opportunities and support; and
  - 19               (3) Nontraditional job training.
- 20          d. Provide an annual report by September first of each year to the director of the  
21          department of commerce division of economic development and finance and the  
22          governor on the findings and recommendations of the commission and any  
23          proposed legislation necessary to implement the recommendations.
- 24          e. Prepare for and perform followup duties in connection with state, regional, and  
25          national conferences, encourage interest, participation, and cooperation with  
26          state departments, agencies, and other organizations in developing needed  
27          services, facilities, and opportunities, and provide consultant help to local  
28          organizations created for the purpose of coordinating activities for the economic  
29          and career development of women.