

Introduced by

Agriculture Committee

(At the request of the State Water Commission)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 61-34-04 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the drought disaster livestock water assistance program.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-34-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **61-34-04. Eligibility - Application for assistance.**

7 Applicants with livestock water supply problems caused by drought may apply for
8 assistance from the program. An applicant must first apply for water cost-share assistance from
9 the United States department of agriculture farm service agency. If cost-share assistance is
10 denied by the agency, the applicant may forward the application to the commission for
11 consideration. An application forwarded to the commission must include a document from the
12 United States department of agriculture farm service agency stating the reason for denial of
13 cost-share assistance. The state engineer shall review all applications received by the
14 commission. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a water supply project commenced
15 after application for funding is made but without prior approval of the state engineer is eligible
16 for funding consideration from the program. ~~If the state engineer approves an application, the~~
17 ~~applicant may receive up to fifty percent of the cost but in no event more than three thousand~~
18 ~~five hundred dollars per project with a limit of three projects per applicant.~~ The state engineer
19 shall provide funds for approved applications in accordance with rules and criteria for eligibility
20 and only to the extent that funding is available. A drought disaster livestock water assistance
21 program project located on Indian land is eligible for the program.