Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023

HOUSE BILL NO. 1437 (Representatives Beltz, Brandenburg, Hagert, Kempenich, Mitskog, Satrom, Thomas) (Senators Klein, Luick, Wanzek)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the creation of regional livestock planning grants; and to provide for an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Regional livestock development and planning program - Grants.

- 1. The commissioner shall administer a grant program to assist counties and regional planning councils, as defined in chapter 54-40.1, for livestock development planning. A county or a regional planning council may submit an application for assistance under this section to the commissioner.
- 2. The commissioner shall award grants to counties and regional planning councils for purposes of coordinating strategic planning and accommodating and encouraging investment in livestock production. Grants shall be awarded for the following activities:
 - a. Identification of suitable locations for rural economic development, including animal feeding operations, agricultural processing and storage facilities, and other agricultural-related development. The following factors must be considered when identifying suitable locations for rural economic development:
 - (1) Local zoning and land use regulations;
 - (2) State permitting requirements; and
 - (3) Availability of infrastructure and natural resources necessary to accommodate rural economic development projects.
 - b. Review and updating of township zoning and land use regulations.
- 3. Grants awarded under this section may not exceed:
 - <u>a.</u> <u>Up to twelve thousand dollars for every county included in an application for activities described in subdivision a of subsection 2.</u>
 - <u>b.</u> <u>Up to five hundred dollars for every township included in an application for activities described in subdivision b of subsection 2.</u>
- 4. Any information created, collected, or maintained by the commissioner which identifies individual parcels of land for rural economic development is confidential and not subject to the open records requirements of section 44-04-18.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - ENVIRONMENT AND RANGELAND PROTECTION FUND - AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER - REGIONAL LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the environment and rangeland protection fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,200,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the agriculture commissioner for the purpose of identifying locations for rural economic development, including animal feeding operations, agricultural processing and

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storage facilities, and other agricultural-related development, and assisting the review and updating of township zoning and land use regulations, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

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	Speaker of the House			President of the Senate	
	Chief C	Clerk of the House		Secretary of the Senate	
				Representatives of s of that body as Hou	
House Vote:	Yeas 81	Nays 9	Absent 4		
Senate Vote:	Yeas 46	Nays 1	Absent 0		
				Chief Clerk of the H	Olica
				Office Clerk of the Tr	ouse
Received by the Governor atM. on					, 2023.
Approved atM. on					, 2023.
				Governor	
Filed in this offi	ice this	day of			, 2023,
at o'	'clock	М.			
				Secretary of State	