

Introduced by

Representatives Rios, Longmuir, Motschenbacher, Prichard, D. Ruby, Timmons

Senators Bekkedahl, Paulson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 12.1-05 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to reimbursement for a finding of self-defense when charged with a
3 crime of violence; and to provide for application.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 12.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Crime of violence - Self-defense - Reimbursement.**

- 8 1. As used in this section, "crime of violence" means a violation of state law in which an
9 individual causes death or physical bodily injury to another individual. The term
10 includes assault and murder.
11 2. If an individual charged with a crime of violence is found not guilty due to the
12 justification of self-defense, the court may order the state to reimburse the defendant
13 for all reasonable costs incurred in defense, including loss of wages and time,
14 attorney's fees, and other expenses involved in the defense. The reimbursement is not
15 an independent cause of action.

16 **SECTION 2. APPLICATION.** This Act applies to criminal charges filed after the effective
17 date of this Act.