

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1519

Introduced by

Representatives Hagert, Nathe, O'Brien, Porter, Stemen

Senators Bekkedahl, Meyer, Weber

1 A BILL for an Act to provide appropriations to the department of transportation, department of
2 health and human services, department of career and technical education, department of
3 agriculture, and industrial commission for uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or
4 other autonomous technology grants; and to provide a report.

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

6 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**
7 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**
8 **MANAGEMENT.**

- 9 1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,
10 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$250,000, or so much of the sum as may be
11 necessary, to the department of transportation for the purpose of uncrewed aircraft
12 system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous technology grants to political
13 subdivisions, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The
14 funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.
- 15 2. The department of transportation shall develop an application process and guidelines
16 for the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and matching
17 requirements. The department of transportation may require a political subdivision to
18 provide one dollar of matching funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be
19 eligible for a grant, a political subdivision shall certify to the department of
20 transportation that the operation of the uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle,
21 or other autonomous technology is related to inspecting, operating, maintaining, or
22 construction of critical infrastructure.
- 23 3. A political subdivision may use grant funding to purchase or lease uncrewed aircraft
24 systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; to support the

1 operations of uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous
2 technologies; to contract for services related to uncrewed aircraft systems,
3 autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; or for other eligible uses
4 related to uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous
5 technology operations as determined by the department of transportation.

6 4. During the 2023-24 interim, the department of transportation shall provide at least
7 one report to the legislative management regarding the grants, including a list of grant
8 recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use of the grant funding.

9 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO**
11 **LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.**

12 1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,
13 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$250,000, or so much of the sum as may be
14 necessary, to the department of health and human services for the purpose of
15 uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous technology
16 grants to emergency medical services providers, for the biennium beginning July 1,
17 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The funding provided in this section is considered a
18 one-time funding item.

19 2. The department of health and human services shall develop an application process
20 and guidelines for the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and
21 matching requirements. The department of health and human services may require an
22 emergency medical services provider to provide one dollar of matching funds for every
23 four dollars awarded by the state. To be eligible for a grant, an emergency medical
24 services provider shall certify to the department of health and human services that the
25 operation of the uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous
26 technology is related to providing or enhancing emergency medical services in rural
27 areas of the state.

28 3. An emergency medical services provider may use grant funding to purchase or lease
29 uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies;
30 to support the operations of uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other
31 autonomous technologies; to contract for services related to uncrewed aircraft

1 systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; or for other eligible
2 uses related to uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous
3 technology operations as determined by the department of health and human
4 services.

5 4. During the 2023-24 interim, the department of health and human services shall
6 provide at least one report to the legislative management regarding the grants,
7 including a list of grant recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use
8 of the grant funding.

9 **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION - ONE-TIME FUNDING -**
11 **REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.**

12 1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,
13 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$250,000, or so much of the sum as may be
14 necessary, to the department of career and technical education for the purpose of
15 uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous technology
16 grants to a workforce training center serving the northwest area of the state, for the
17 biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The funding provided in
18 this section is considered a one-time funding item.

19 2. The department of career and technical education shall develop an application
20 process and guidelines for the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant
21 awards, and matching requirements. The department of career and technical
22 education may require a workforce training center to provide one dollar of matching
23 funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be eligible for a grant, a
24 workforce training center shall certify to the department of career and technical
25 education that the operation of the uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or
26 other autonomous technology is related to workforce or educational training with
27 uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies.

28 3. A workforce training center may use grant funding to purchase or lease uncrewed
29 aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; to support
30 the operations of uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other
31 autonomous technologies; to contract for services related to uncrewed aircraft

1 systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; for educational or
2 training curriculum expenses related to uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous
3 vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; or for other eligible uses related to
4 uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous technology
5 operations as determined by the department of career and technical education.

6 4. During the 2023-24 interim, the department of career and technical education shall
7 provide at least one report to the legislative management regarding the grants,
8 including a list of grant recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use
9 of the grant funding.

10 **SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**
11 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**
12 **MANAGEMENT.**

13 1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,
14 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$250,000, or so much of the sum as may be
15 necessary, to the department of agriculture for the purpose of uncrewed aircraft
16 system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous technology grants to individuals
17 and entities in the agriculture industry, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and
18 ending June 30, 2025. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time
19 funding item.

20 2. The department of agriculture shall develop an application process and guidelines for
21 the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and matching
22 requirements. The department of agriculture may require an individual or entity to
23 provide one dollar of matching funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be
24 eligible for a grant, an individual or entity shall certify to the department of agriculture
25 that the operation of the uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other
26 autonomous technology is related to inspecting, operating, maintaining, or
27 construction of agriculture property or infrastructure.

28 3. An individual or entity may use grant funding to purchase or lease uncrewed aircraft
29 systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; to support the
30 operations of uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous
31 technologies; to contract for services related to uncrewed aircraft systems,

1 autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; or for other eligible uses
2 related to uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous
3 technology operations as determined by the department of agriculture.

4 4. During the 2023-24 interim, the department of agriculture shall provide at least
5 one report to the legislative management regarding the grants, including a list of grant
6 recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use of the grant funding.

7 **SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**
8 **INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**
9 **MANAGEMENT.**

10 1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,
11 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$250,000, or so much of the sum as may be
12 necessary, to the industrial commission for the purpose of uncrewed aircraft system,
13 autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous technology grants to individuals and entities
14 in the oil and gas industry, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending
15 June 30, 2025. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding
16 item.

17 2. The industrial commission shall develop an application process and guidelines for the
18 grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and matching
19 requirements. The industrial commission may require an individual or entity to provide
20 one dollar of matching funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be eligible
21 for a grant, an individual or entity shall certify to the industrial commission that the
22 operation of the uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous
23 technology is related to inspecting, operating, maintaining, or construction of oil and
24 gas infrastructure.

25 3. An individual or entity may use grant funding to purchase or lease uncrewed aircraft
26 systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; to support the
27 operations of uncrewed aircraft systems, autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous
28 technologies; to contract for services related to uncrewed aircraft systems,
29 autonomous vehicles, or other autonomous technologies; or for other eligible uses
30 related to uncrewed aircraft system, autonomous vehicle, or other autonomous
31 technology operations as determined by the industrial commission.

- 1 4. During the 2023-24 interim, the industrial commission shall provide at least one report
- 2 to the legislative management regarding the grants, including a list of grant recipients,
- 3 the amounts awarded, and a description of the use of the grant funding.