

Introduced by

Representative Frelich

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a study relating to pollutants in Devils Lake; and to provide for a  
2 legislative management report.

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

4 **SECTION 1. DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND DEPARTMENT OF**  
5 **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY STUDY - DEVILS LAKE POLLUTANTS - REPORT TO**  
6 **LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.**

- 7 1. During the 2027-28 interim, the department of water resources and department of  
8 environmental quality shall jointly study the historic, present, and projected sulfate and  
9 other chemical levels in Devils Lake. The study must:
- 10 a. Evaluate and identify methods to reduce pollutant levels in the lake;
  - 11 b. Determine the feasibility and desirability of constructing a treatment plant to treat  
12 water leaving Devils Lake for the purpose of lowering lake levels;
  - 13 c. Determine the feasibility of combining water discharged from Devils Lake with  
14 water treated by the Red River valley water supply project at the project's outfall  
15 location south of Cooperstown along the Sheyenne River; and
  - 16 d. Determine the effects to the Devils Lake basin and other waterways of the state  
17 as a result of releasing additional water from Devils Lake.
- 18 2. The department of water resources and department of environmental quality shall  
19 provide a joint report to the legislative management by August 1, 2028, regarding the  
20 status of and any recommendations from the Devils Lake pollutant study.