

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with House Amendments**

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2308

Introduced by

Senators Roers, Hogue

Representatives Lefor, Louser

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 23.1-01, a new section to chapter
2 54-07, and a new section to chapter 61-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to
3 standards for well drilling and installation of water well pumps, pitless units, and monitoring
4 wells, a boards review task force, and requirements for firms engaged in water well work,
5 installation of water well pump and pitless units, monitoring well work, and drilling of geothermal
6 systems; to amend and reenact section 6-09-43, subdivision j of subsection 2 of section
7 15.1-01-04, sections 15.1-07-33 and 23-35-02.2, subsection 1 of section 50-06-01.4, sections
8 52-02-02 and 52-02-08, subsection 1 of section 54-07-01.2, sections 54-54-05, 54-59-26,
9 54-59-27, 54-59-34, 54-59-36, 54-59-37, 54-59-39, 61-03-01.3, 61-04.1-03, 61-04.1-08,
10 61-04.1-09, 61-04.1-12, 61-04.1-14, 61-04.1-15, 61-04.1-16, 61-04.1-17, 61-04.1-18,
11 61-04.1-19, 61-04.1-20, 61-04.1-21, 61-04.1-33, 61-04.1-34, 61-04.1-37, 61-04.1-38, and
12 61-04.1-39, and subdivision a of subsection 2 of section 65-02-03.1 of the North Dakota
13 Century Code, relating to the wastewater recycling treatment guide, boards and commissions,
14 the unemployment insurance advisory council, gubernatorial appointments, the committee on
15 aging, health information technology advisory committee, statewide longitudinal data system
16 committee, atmospheric resource board, the department of health and human services, the
17 council on the arts, the state engineer, the superintendent of public instruction, job service North
18 Dakota, and workforce safety and insurance coordinating committee; to repeal chapter 8-11.1,
19 sections 12-48-06.1, 15.1-37-05, 15.1-37-06, and 15.1-37-08, chapter 17-07, sections
20 19-24.1-38, 19-24.1-39, and 23-35-02.3, chapters 34-16 and 43-35, sections 50-06-05.6,
21 50-06.4-10, 50-11.1-25, 50-11.1-26, 50-11.1-27, 52-02-07, 54-34.3-10, 54-54-10, 54-59-25,
22 54-59-33, 54-59-35, 54-59-38, 54-60-25, 55-01-13, 55-01-14, 61-04.1-04, 61-04.1-05,
23 61-04.1-06, 61-04.1-07, and 61-04.1-10, and chapter 61-36 of the North Dakota Century Code,

1 relating to occupational and professional boards, the midwest interstate passenger rail compact,
2 prison industry advisory committee, energy policy commission, medical marijuana advisory
3 committee, onsite wastewater recycling technical committee, state board of water well
4 contractors, committee on aging, brain injury advisory council, early childhood council,
5 unemployment insurance advisory council, commission on the status of women, health
6 information technology advisory committee, poet laureate nominating board, rural development
7 council, America 250 commission, atmospheric resource board, and Devils Lake outlet
8 management advisory committee; to provide for a legislative management report; to provide an
9 effective date; and to provide an expiration date.

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

11 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-09-43 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended
12 and reenacted as follows:

13 **6-09-43. Health information technology planning loan fund - Appropriation.**

- 14 1. The health information technology planning loan fund is established in the Bank for the
15 purpose of providing low-interest loans to health care entities to assist those entities in
16 improving health information technology infrastructure. This fund is a revolving loan
17 fund. All moneys transferred into the fund, interest upon moneys in the fund, and
18 collections of interest and principal on loans made from the fund are appropriated for
19 disbursement according to this section.
- 20 2. The Bank shall make loans from this fund to health care entities as approved by the
21 health information technology office director, ~~in collaboration with the health-~~
22 ~~information technology advisory committee,~~ in accordance with the criteria established
23 by the health information technology director under section 54-59-26.
- 24 3. The Bank shall administer the health information technology planning loan fund. Funds
25 in the loan fund may be used for loans as provided under this section and the costs of
26 administration of the fund. Annually, the Bank may deduct a service fee for
27 administering the revolving loan fund maintained under this section.
- 28 4. An application for a loan under this section must be made to the health information
29 technology office. The health information technology office director, ~~in collaboration-~~
30 ~~with the health information technology advisory committee,~~ may approve the

1 application of a qualified applicant that meets the criteria established by the health
2 information technology office director. The health information technology office shall
3 forward approved applications to the Bank. Upon approval of the application by the
4 Bank, the Bank shall make the loan from the revolving loan fund as provided under
5 this section.

6 5. The Bank may do all acts necessary to negotiate loans and preserve security as
7 deemed necessary, to exercise any right of redemption, and to bring suit in order to
8 collect interest and principal due the revolving loan fund under mortgages, contracts,
9 and notes executed to obtain loans under this section. If the applicant's plan for
10 financing provides for a loan of funds from sources other than the state of North
11 Dakota, the Bank may make a loan subordinate security interest. The Bank may
12 recover from the revolving loan fund amounts actually expended by the Bank for legal
13 fees and to effect a redemption.

14 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision j of subsection 2 of section 15.1-01-04 of the North
15 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

16 j. The following gubernatorial appointees:

17 (1) ~~An individual representing the statewide longitudinal data system~~
18 ~~committee;~~

19 (2) An individual representing tribal school interests;

20 (3)(2) An individual employed as a public school administrator;

21 (4)(3) An individual employed as a public school principal;

22 (5)(4) An individual employed as a public elementary school teacher;

23 (6)(5) An individual employed as a public secondary school teacher;

24 (7)(6) A director of a special education unit; and

25 (8)(7) A director of a regional education association.

26 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-07-33 of the North Dakota Century Code is
27 amended and reenacted as follows:

28 **15.1-07-33. Student information system - Exemption.**

29 1. Notwithstanding any other technology requirements imposed by the superintendent of
30 public instruction or the information technology department, each school district shall
31 implement the state student information system administered by the ~~information-~~

1 ~~technology departments~~superintendent of public instruction and use it as its principal
2 student information system. Each school district shall use a state course code,
3 assigned by the department of public instruction, to identify all local classes in the
4 state student information system.

5 2. The ~~statewide longitudinal data system committees~~superintendent of public instruction
6 may exempt a school district from having to implement and utilize the state student
7 information system if the school district demonstrates ~~that~~:

8 a. The district has acquired and is using a student information system determined to
9 be compatible with the statewide longitudinal data system; or

10 b. In accordance with requirements of the bureau of Indian education, the district
11 has acquired and is utilizing a student information system that is determined to
12 be comparable by the superintendent.

13 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 23-35-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is
14 amended and reenacted as follows:

15 **23-35-02.2. Public health units to adopt onsite wastewater recycling treatment guide.**

16 Each public health unit shall adopt the statewide technical guide for onsite wastewater
17 recycling treatment technologies and sewage distribution technologies established by the ~~onsite-~~
18 ~~wastewater recycling technical committee~~department of environmental quality.

19 **SECTION 5.** A new section to chapter 23.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
20 and enacted as follows:

21 **Standards for well drilling and installation of water well pumps, pitless units, and**
22 **monitoring wells - Reports required.**

23 1. All construction of water wells must comply with the rules adopted by the department
24 of environmental quality.

25 2. All installation of water well pumps and pitless units must comply with the rules
26 adopted by the department of environmental quality.

27 3. All monitoring wells constructed must comply with the rules adopted by the department
28 of environmental quality. Each monitoring well contractor shall furnish all reports
29 required by the rules of the department.

30 4. All drilling of geothermal systems must comply with the rules adopted by the
31 department of environmental quality and the state geologist.

1 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 50-06-01.4 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3 1. The department includes the state hospital, the regional human service centers, a
4 vocational rehabilitation unit, public health division, and other units or offices and
5 administrative and fiscal support services as the commissioner of the department
6 determines necessary. The department must be structured to promote efficient and
7 effective operations and, consistent with fulfilling its prescribed statutory duties, shall
8 act as the official agency of the state in the discharge of the following functions not
9 otherwise by law made the responsibility of another state agency:

- 10 a. (1) Administration of programs for children and families, including adoption
11 services and the licensure of child-placing agencies, foster care services
12 and the licensure of foster care arrangements, certification of shelter care
13 services, child protection services, children's trust fund, licensure of early
14 childhood programs, refugee services, in-home community-based services,
15 quality control, and administration of the interstate compacts on the
16 placement of children and juveniles, and the early childhood services
17 advisory board.
- 18 (2) Administration of programs to identify all available options for effectively
19 maximizing the provision of early childhood services within the state and
20 address the coordinated utilization of facilities and personnel for the
21 provision of early childhood services within the state.
- 22 b. Administration of programs for individuals with developmental disabilities,
23 including licensure of facilities and services, the establishment funding for family
24 members and corporate guardianships, and the design and implementation of a
25 community-based service system for persons in need of habilitation.
- 26 c. Administration of aging service programs, including nutrition, transportation,
27 advocacy, social, ombudsman, recreation, and related services funded under the
28 Older Americans Act of 1965 [42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.], home and
29 community-based services, licensure of adult foster care homes, and the
30 committee on aging.

- 1 d. Administration of behavioral health programs, including reviewing and identifying
2 service needs and activities in the state's behavioral health system in an effort to
3 ensure health and safety, access to services, and quality of services; establishing
4 quality assurance standards for the licensure of substance use disorder program
5 services and facilities; providing policy leadership in partnership with public and
6 private entities; and providing chronic disease management, regional intervention
7 services, and twenty-four-hour crisis services for individuals with behavioral
8 health disorders.
- 9 e. Administration of economic assistance programs, including temporary assistance
10 for needy families, the supplemental nutrition assistance program, home energy
11 assistance, child care assistance, refugee assistance, work experience, work
12 incentive, and quality control.
- 13 f. Administration of medical service programs, including medical assistance for
14 children's health insurance program, Medicaid waivers, early and periodic
15 screening, diagnosis and treatment, utilization control, autism services, and
16 claims processing.
- 17 g. Administration of general assistance.
- 18 h. Administration of child support.
- 19 i. Administration of program, services, and licensing outlined in title 23 and other
20 previous duties of the state department of health and state health council.
- 21 j. Administration of a program to improve the quality of life for an individual with
22 brain injury and the individual's family through brain injury awareness, prevention,
23 research, education, collaboration, support services, and advocacy.

24 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 52-02-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **52-02-02. Powers, duties, organization, and methods of procedure of bureau - Seal.**

27 The bureau may adopt, amend, or rescind ~~such~~ rules and regulations, make ~~such~~
28 expenditures, require ~~such~~ reports, make ~~such~~ investigations, and take ~~such~~ other action as it
29 deems necessary or suitable in the administration of the North Dakota unemployment
30 compensation law. ~~Such rules~~All rules and regulations are effective upon publication in the
31 manner, not inconsistent with the provisions of the North Dakota unemployment compensation

1 law, which the bureau shall prescribe. The bureau shall determine its own organization and
2 methods of procedure in accordance with the provisions of the North Dakota unemployment
3 compensation law and shall have an official seal which shall be noticed judicially.

4 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 52-02-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **52-02-08. Bureau and ~~advisory councils~~ to take steps to stabilize employment.**

7 The bureau, ~~with the advice and aid of its advisory councils,~~ and through its appropriate
8 divisions, shall take appropriate steps to:

- 9 1. Reduce and prevent unemployment.
- 10 2. Encourage and assist in the adoption of practical methods of career and technical
11 education training, retraining, and career development counseling.
- 12 3. Investigate, recommend, advise, and assist in the establishment and operation, by
13 municipalities, counties, school districts, and the state, of reserves for public works to
14 be used in times of business depression and unemployment.
- 15 4. Promote the re-employment of unemployed workers throughout the state in every
16 other way that may be feasible.
- 17 5. Carry on and publish the results of investigations and research studies.

18 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 54-07-01.2 of the North Dakota
19 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 20 1. Notwithstanding sections 2-05-01, 4.1-05-02, 4.1-26-02, 6-01-03, 6-09-02.1,
21 12-55.1-02, 12-59-01, 15-39.1-05.1, 15.1-01-01, 15.1-13-02, 20.1-02-23, 23.1-01-02,
22 36-01-01, 37-18.1-01, ~~50-06-05.6, 54-34.3-10,~~ 54-54-02, 55-01-01, and 61-02-04, all
23 members of the following boards and commissions must, subject to the limitations of
24 this section, be considered to have resigned from such boards and commissions
25 effective January first of the first year of each four-year term of the governor:
 - 26 a. The aeronautics commission.
 - 27 b. The milk marketing board.
 - 28 c. The dairy promotion commission.
 - 29 d. The state banking board.
 - 30 e. The state credit union board.
 - 31 f. The advisory board of directors to the Bank of North Dakota.

- 1 g. The pardon advisory board.
- 2 h. The state parole board.
- 3 i. The state board of public school education.
- 4 j. The education standards and practices board.
- 5 k. The board of trustees of the teachers' fund for retirement.
- 6 l. The state game and fish advisory board.
- 7 m. The environmental review advisory council.
- 8 n. The board of animal health.
- 9 o. The administrative committee on veterans' affairs.
- 10 ~~p. The committee on aging.~~
- 11 ~~q. The commission on the status of women.~~
- 12 r. The North Dakota council on the arts.
- 13 ~~s-q.~~ The state historical board.
- 14 ~~t-r.~~ The state water commission.

15 **SECTION 10.** A new section to chapter 54-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
16 and enacted as follows:

17 **Boards review task force - Report to legislative management.**

- 18 1. The office of the governor shall provide staffing and administrative services to the
19 boards review task force. The task force shall:
 - 20 a. Review and assess all boards, commissions, committees, councils, and task
21 forces for inefficiencies and duplication of responsibilities; and
 - 22 b. Make recommendations to the legislative assembly regarding minimizing and
23 streamlining government operations through the consolidation or elimination of
24 boards, commissions, committees, councils, and task forces.
- 25 2. In addition to the governor or the governor's designee, who shall serve as the
26 presiding officer of the task force, the task force must include:
 - 27 a. A member of the senate, appointed by the senate majority leader.
 - 28 b. A member of the house of representatives, appointed by the house of
29 representatives majority leader.
 - 30 c. A representative of an organization representing cities, appointed by the
31 governor.

- 1 d. A representative of an organization representing counties, appointed by the
2 governor.
- 3 e. A representative of the business community, appointed by the governor.
- 4 f. A representative of an occupational licensing board, appointed by the governor.
- 5 g. A member at large, appointed by the governor.
- 6 3. A member of the task force who is not a state employee is entitled to reimbursement
7 for mileage and expenses as provided by law for state officers and employees, to be
8 paid by the office of the governor. A state employee who is a member of the task force
9 is entitled to receive that employee's regular salary and is entitled to reimbursement
10 for mileage and expenses to be paid by the employing agency. A member of the task
11 force who is a member of the legislative assembly is entitled to receive per diem
12 compensation at the rate provided under section 54-35-10 for each day performing
13 official duties of the task force. The legislative council shall pay the per diem
14 compensation and reimbursement for travel and expenses as provided by law for any
15 member of the task force who is a member of the legislative assembly.
- 16 4. Before October 1, 2026, the task force shall provide a report of its findings and
17 recommendations and any proposed legislation necessary to implement the
18 recommendations to the legislative management.

19 **SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-54-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is
20 amended and reenacted as follows:

21 **54-54-05. Duties of council.**

22 The duties of the council are:

- 23 1. To stimulate and encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the
24 performing and fine arts and public interest and participation therein.
- 25 2. To make such surveys as may be deemed advisable of public and private institutions
26 engaged within the state in artistic and cultural activities, including but not limited to,
27 music, theater, dance, painting, sculpture, architecture, and allied arts and crafts, and
28 to make recommendations concerning appropriate methods to encourage participation
29 in and appreciation of the arts to meet the legitimate needs and aspirations of persons
30 in all parts of the state.

- 1 3. To take such steps as may be necessary and appropriate to encourage public interest
- 2 in the cultural heritage of our state and to expand the state's cultural resources.
- 3 4. To encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression essential for the well-being of
- 4 the arts.
- 5 5. To determine the artistic value of property as provided by section 1-08-04.1.
- 6 6. To administer a poet laureate program that selects the poet laureate and requires the
- 7 poet laureate to participate in at least four public events around the state each year.

8 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-59-26 of the North Dakota Century Code is
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10 **54-59-26. Health information technology office - Duties - Loan and grant programs.**

- 11 1. ~~The health information technology office is created in the department. The health-~~
- 12 ~~information technology advisory committee shall make recommendations to the health-~~
- 13 ~~information technology office for implementing an interoperable health information-~~
- 14 ~~infrastructure that is consistent with emerging national standards; promote the~~
- 15 ~~adoption and use of electronic health records and other health information-~~
- 16 ~~technologies; and promote interoperability of health information systems for the~~
- 17 ~~purpose of improving health care quality, patient safety, and the overall efficiency of~~
- 18 ~~health care and public health services.~~
- 19 2. The health information technology office director, ~~in collaboration with the health-~~
- 20 ~~information technology advisory committee,~~ shall:
 - 21 a. Apply for federal funds that may be available to assist the state and health care
 - 22 providers in implementing and improving health information technology.
 - 23 b. Implement and administer a health information exchange that utilizes information
 - 24 infrastructure and systems in a secure and cost-effective manner to facilitate the
 - 25 collection, storage, and transmission of health records.
 - 26 c. Adopt rules under chapter 28-32 for the use of health information, use of the
 - 27 health information exchange, and participation in the health information
 - 28 exchange.
 - 29 d. Adopt rules under chapter 28-32 for accessing the health information exchange
 - 30 to ensure appropriate and required privacy and security protections and relating

- 1 to the authority of the director to suspend, eliminate, or terminate the right to
2 participate in the health information exchange.
- 3 e. Establish a health information technology planning loan program to provide
4 low-interest loans to health care entities to assist those entities in improving their
5 health information technology infrastructure under section 6-09-43.
- 6 f. Facilitate and expand electronic health information exchange in the state, directly
7 or by awarding grants.
- 8 g. Establish an application process and eligibility criteria for and accept and process
9 applications for loans and grants under subdivisions e and f. The eligibility criteria
10 must be consistent with federal requirements associated with federal funds
11 received under subdivision a. The eligibility criteria for loans under subdivision f
12 must include a requirement that the recipient's approved health information
13 technology be strategically aligned with the state's health information technology
14 plan and the associated federal standards and that the recipient has passed an
15 onsite electronic medical record readiness assessment conducted by an
16 assessment team determined by ~~the health information technology advisory~~
17 ~~committee~~ and the health information technology office director.
- 18 h. Determine fees and charges for access and participation in the health information
19 exchange. Any moneys collected under this subdivision must be deposited in the
20 electronic health information exchange fund.
- 21 i. Consult and coordinate with the department of health and human services to
22 facilitate the collection of health information from health care providers and state
23 agencies for public health purposes, including identifiable health information that
24 may be used by state agencies, departments, or institutions to comply with
25 applicable state or federal laws.
- 26 3. ~~If the health information technology advisory committee determines that establishing a~~
27 ~~health information exchange with another state or states will assist in providing health~~
28 ~~information exchange services in a cost-effective manner, the~~The health information
29 technology office director, ~~in collaboration with the health information technology~~
30 ~~advisory committee~~, may join with another state or states to establish, implement, and

1 administer a health information exchange consistent with other provisions of this
2 chapter.

3 **SECTION 13. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-59-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **54-59-27. Health information technology office - Electronic health information**
6 **exchange fund.**

7 1. There is created an electronic health information exchange fund. The fund consists of
8 moneys deposited in the fund from federal or other sources or moneys transferred into
9 the fund as directed by the legislative assembly. The health information technology
10 office shall administer this fund and shall distribute moneys in the fund accordingly.
11 The moneys in the fund must be used to facilitate and expand electronic health
12 information exchange. Moneys in the fund may be used, subject to legislative
13 appropriations, to provide services directly, for grants as provided under this section,
14 and for the costs of administration of the fund.

15 2. A grant applicant shall submit an application to the health information technology
16 office, which shall determine the applicant's eligibility based upon criteria established
17 by the health information technology office director ~~in collaboration with the health-~~
18 ~~information technology advisory committee.~~

19 3. This section does not create an entitlement to any funds available for grants under this
20 section. The health information technology office may award these grants to the extent
21 funds are available and, within the office's discretion, to the extent such applications
22 are approved.

23 **SECTION 14. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-59-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is
24 amended and reenacted as follows:

25 **54-59-34. Statewide longitudinal data system ~~committee~~ - Information technology**
26 **department - Duties.**

27 1. The ~~statewide longitudinal data system committee~~department shall manage a
28 statewide longitudinal data system among education, workforce, and training entities
29 that:

30 a. Provides for the dissemination of management information to stakeholders and
31 partners of state education, training, and employment systems;

- 1 b. Is required to provide on an annual basis to education and workforce
2 development programs, to the extent permitted by federal law, the wage record
3 interchange system 2 data sharing agreement and the state wage interchange
4 system data sharing agreement and state performance reports that measure the
5 aggregate outcomes of participants in the workforce and continuing education
6 programs, including private workforce and education programs that request the
7 reports; and
- 8 c. Uses data from educational and workforce systems as central sources of
9 statewide longitudinal data.
- 10 2. The department may, subject to federal and state privacy laws, enter interagency
11 agreements, including agreements designating authorized representatives of the
12 educational agencies participating in the system, under the Family Educational Rights
13 and Privacy Act [20 U.S.C. 1232(g); 34 CFR 99].
- 14 3. ~~The statewide longitudinal data system committee~~department shall establish policies
15 and adopt rules addressing access to and the collection, storage, and sharing of
16 information and the systems necessary to perform those functions, subject to
17 applicable federal and state privacy laws and interagency agreements and restrictions
18 relating to confidential information required to conform to applicable federal and state
19 privacy laws.
- 20 3.4. ~~The statewide longitudinal data system committee~~department shall provide operational
21 oversight for information sharing activities and make recommendations for and provide
22 oversight of information sharing budgets.
- 23 4.5. ~~The statewide longitudinal data system committee in consultation with the information-~~
24 ~~technology~~ department shall:
- 25 a. Establish the terms and conditions under which a person may be authorized to
26 access data through the statewide longitudinal data system;
- 27 b. Direct that all statewide longitudinal data system administrators implement
28 approved data protection practices to ensure the security of electronic and
29 physical data, provided that the practices include requirements for encryption and
30 staff training;

- 1 c. Provide for biennial privacy and security audits of the statewide longitudinal data
2 system;
- 3 d. Establish protocols, including procedures, for the notification of students and
4 parents in the event of a data breach involving the statewide longitudinal data
5 system;
- 6 e. Require that data retention and disposition by the statewide longitudinal data
7 system be governed by the same policies as those instituted for the information
8 technology department; and
- 9 f. Require the provision of annual training regarding data protection to any
10 individuals who have access to the statewide longitudinal data system, including
11 school district employees, employees of the North Dakota university system
12 office and institutions under the control of the state board of higher education,
13 and elected or appointed state or local governmental officials.

14 6. The department may authorize studies to benefit and improve workforce training and
15 education.

16 **SECTION 15. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-59-36 of the North Dakota Century Code is
17 amended and reenacted as follows:

18 **54-59-36. Statewide longitudinal data system ~~committee~~ - Report to legislative**
19 **management.**

20 During each interim the ~~statewide longitudinal data system committee~~department shall
21 provide a report regarding the statewide longitudinal data system to one or more committees
22 designated by the legislative management and shall provide recommendations for further
23 development, cost proposals, proposals for legislation, and recommendations for data sharing
24 governance.

25 **SECTION 16. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-59-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is
26 amended and reenacted as follows:

27 **54-59-37. Statewide longitudinal data system ~~committee~~ - Continuing appropriation.**

28 The ~~statewide longitudinal data system committee~~department may solicit and receive gifts,
29 grants, and donations from public and private sources. Any moneys received in accordance with
30 this section are appropriated on a continuing basis for the support of the statewide longitudinal
31 data system.

1 **SECTION 17. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-59-39 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **54-59-39. State agencies - Mandatory provision of information - Confidentiality.**

- 4 1. The information technology department may request from any state agency:
- 5 a. All information required by 20 U.S.C. 9871(e)(2)(D);
- 6 b. Any other educational information ~~the statewide longitudinal data system~~
7 ~~committee determines~~ is required for a longitudinal data system to comply with
8 state or federal law; and
- 9 c. Unemployment insurance wage data from job service North Dakota for education
10 and workforce development program evaluations, except that the information
11 technology department may not redisclose any data identifying an individual
12 unless the redisclosure is expressly permitted by a written agreement between
13 job service North Dakota and the department or is otherwise expressly permitted
14 or required by federal or state law.
- 15 2. A state agency providing information requested under subsection 1 shall enter an
16 interagency agreement with the department which identifies applicable federal and
17 state privacy laws and agency-established restrictions relating to its confidential
18 information the agency has determined is required to comply with federal and state
19 privacy laws.
- 20 3. Subject to applicable restrictions on the use and disclosure of confidential information
21 required to comply with federal and state privacy laws and the terms of the
22 interagency agreement, any state agency receiving a request for information under
23 subsection 1 shall provide the information at the time and in the manner required by
24 the information technology department.

25 **SECTION 18. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-03-01.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is
26 amended and reenacted as follows:

27 **61-03-01.3. Director - State engineer - Powers and duties.**

- 28 1. The director shall:
- 29 a. Enforce all rules adopted by the department;
- 30 b. Hire a state engineer who is a qualified professional engineer, has appropriate
31 hydrology experience, and will report to the director;

- 1 c. Hire other employees as necessary to carry out the duties of the department and
- 2 director;
- 3 d. Organize the department in an efficient manner; and
- 4 e. Take any other action necessary and appropriate for administration of the
- 5 department.
- 6 f. Adopt rules to license water well contractors, water well pump and pitless unit
- 7 installers, monitoring well contractors, and geothermal system drillers.
- 8 g. Advise the governor and the state water commission regarding operations of
- 9 Devils Lake outlets.
- 10 h. Recommend an operational plan for the Devils Lake outlet based on Sheyenne
- 11 River capacity and water quality considerations.
- 12 2. The state engineer is responsible for and shall manage the department's oversight of
- 13 dam safety, water appropriations, and construction and drainage permits, and
- 14 associated technical duties related to public safety and property protection.

15 **SECTION 19.** A new section to chapter 61-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
16 and enacted as follows:

17 **Requirements for firms engaged in water well work, installation of water well pumps**
18 **and pitless units, monitoring well work, and drilling of geothermal systems - Exceptions.**

- 19 1. A person, partnership, association, corporation, or limited liability company may not
20 engage in the business of constructing a water well in this state unless at all times a
21 certified water well contractor, who is responsible for the proper construction or
22 alteration of a water well, is in charge. This section does not prohibit any person,
23 partnership, association, corporation, or limited liability company from constructing any
24 water well on the person's or entity's own premises for the person's or entity's own
25 use.
- 26 2. A person may not engage in the business of installing water well pumps and pitless
27 units in the state after July 1, 1986, unless a certified installer, who is responsible for
28 the proper installation of the pump and pitless unit, is in charge of the installation. This
29 chapter does not prohibit any person from installing water well pumps and pitless units
30 on that person's own premises for that person's own use.

- 1 3. A person may not engage in the business of constructing a monitoring well in this state
2 unless at all times a certified monitoring well contractor, who is responsible for the
3 proper construction or alteration of the monitoring well, is in charge. This section does
4 not prohibit any person from installing a monitoring well on that person's own premises
5 for that person's own use.
- 6 4. A person may not engage in the business of drilling geothermal systems in the state
7 after July 1, 2008, unless a certified driller, who is responsible for the proper drilling of
8 the geothermal system, is in charge of the drilling. This section does not prohibit a
9 person from drilling geothermal systems on that person's own premises for that
10 person's own use.
- 11 5. Within thirty days after the completion of each well, each water well contractor shall
12 report to the department, on forms provided by the department, any information
13 required by the department, including a log of formations penetrated, well depth, and
14 casing size and weight. The water well contractor shall provide a copy of the report to
15 the customer. All information submitted to the department must remain the property of
16 the department.

17 **SECTION 20. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
18 amended and reenacted as follows:

19 **61-04.1-03. Definitions.**

20 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 21 1. ~~"Board" means the North Dakota atmospheric resource board which, in the exercise of~~
22 ~~the powers granted under this chapter, has all of the powers of an administrative~~
23 ~~agency as defined in chapter 28-32.~~
- 24 2. "Controller" refers to any licensee duly authorized in this state to engage in weather
25 modification operations.
- 26 ~~3-2.~~ "Geographical region" means a geographical area with a contiguous boundary that
27 may enclose a portion of any county or counties.
- 28 ~~4-3.~~ "Hail suppression" refers to the activation of any process that will reduce, modify,
29 suppress, eliminate, or soften hail formed in clouds or storms.

1 ~~5.4.~~ "Increasing precipitation" refers to the activation of any process that will actually result
2 in greater amounts of moisture reaching the ground in any area from a cloud or cloud
3 system than would have occurred naturally.

4 ~~6.5.~~ "Initiating precipitation" refers to the process of causing precipitation from clouds which
5 could not otherwise have occurred naturally or inducing precipitation significantly
6 earlier than would have occurred naturally.

7 ~~7.6.~~ "Operation" means the performance of any weather modification activity undertaken
8 for the purpose of producing or attempting to produce any form of modifying effect
9 upon the weather within a limited geographical area or within a limited period of time.

10 ~~8.7.~~ "Research and development" means exploration, field experimentation, and extension
11 of investigative findings and theories of a scientific or technical nature into practical
12 application for experimental and demonstration purposes, including the experimental
13 production of models, devices, equipment, materials, and processes.

14 ~~9.8.~~ "Weather modification" means and extends to the control, alteration, and amelioration
15 of weather elements, including man-caused changes in the natural precipitation
16 process, hail suppression or modification, and alteration of other weather phenomena,
17 including clouds, temperature, wind direction, and velocity, and the initiating,
18 increasing, decreasing, and otherwise modifying by artificial methods of precipitation in
19 the form of rain, snow, hail, mist, or fog through cloud seeding, electrification, or by
20 other means to provide immediate practical benefits.

21 ~~10.9.~~ "Weather modification authority" means the governing body created by a board of
22 county commissioners under section 61-04.1-22.1, 61-04.1-23, 61-04.1-27,
23 61-04.1-29, or 61-04.1-31.

24 **SECTION 21. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **61-04.1-08. Powers and duties of ~~board~~the department.**

27 The ~~board~~department has the following powers and duties:

28 1. ~~The board shall appoint an executive director to serve at the board's discretion and to~~
29 ~~perform duties assigned by the board.~~

- 1 2. ~~The board shall authorize the employment of staff the board deems necessary to carry~~
2 ~~out the provisions of this chapter. The executive director shall hire the staff, subject to~~
3 ~~the approval of the board.~~
- 4 3. The ~~board~~department shall adopt rules concerning qualifications, procedures, and
5 conditions for issuance, revocation, suspension, and modification of licenses and
6 permits; standards and instructions governing weather modification operations,
7 including monitoring and evaluation, recordkeeping, and reporting, and the
8 ~~board~~department shall establish procedures and forms for this recordkeeping and
9 reporting. The ~~board~~department may adopt all other rules necessary to the
10 administration of this chapter. The provisions of chapter 28-32 apply to this chapter
11 and rules of the ~~board~~department must be published in the North Dakota
12 Administrative Code.
- 13 4.2. The ~~board~~department may contract with any person to carry out weather modification
14 operations and, in connection with regulated weather modification operations in a
15 county or geographical region, shall carry on monitoring and evaluation activities.
- 16 5.3. The ~~board~~department may order any person who is conducting weather modification
17 operations in violation of this chapter or any rules adopted to implement this chapter,
18 to cease and desist from those operations and the order is enforceable in any court of
19 competent jurisdiction within this state.
- 20 6.4. The ~~board~~department may cooperate and contract with any person engaged in
21 activities similar to the work of the ~~board~~department and may make contracts and
22 agreements to carry out programs consistent with the purpose and intent of this
23 chapter. The ~~board~~department may request and accept any grants of funds or services
24 from any person and expend these funds or use these services to carry out this
25 chapter.
- 26 7.5. The ~~board~~department shall monitor the current state of knowledge regarding the
27 magnitude and impacts of possible regional and global climatic changes and shall
28 provide information to other state agencies that may benefit from this knowledge.
- 29 8.6. The ~~board~~department shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and
30 do all things reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter.

1 ~~9-7.~~ The ~~board~~department may plan and study a hail suppression pilot program that would
2 provide urban and rural hail suppression operations statewide or to any portion of the
3 state.

4 **SECTION 22. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **61-04.1-09. ~~Board~~Department of water resources to establish research and**
7 **development program - Hail suppression pilot program.**

8 1. The ~~board~~department of water resources shall establish a program of weather
9 modification research and development in this state. The ~~board~~department shall
10 supervise and coordinate all research and development activities in the state or
11 research and development activities outside of the state participated in or conducted
12 by any state institution or state or county agency.

13 2. If the ~~board~~department plans and studies a hail suppression pilot program, the
14 ~~board~~department may conduct a planning phase that includes studying the impact on
15 the environment, providing public education, and formulating an operations plan.

16 **SECTION 23. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is
17 amended and reenacted as follows:

18 **61-04.1-12. Exemptions.**

19 The ~~board~~department of water resources may provide by rule for exemption of the following
20 activities from the license and permit requirements of section 61-04.1-11:

21 1. Research and development conducted by the state, political subdivisions of the state,
22 colleges and universities of the state, agencies of the federal government, or bona fide
23 research corporations.

24 2. Weather modification operations of an emergency nature taken against fire, frost, or
25 fog.

26 Exempted activities shallmust be conducted so as not to unduly interfere with weather
27 modification operations conducted under a permit issued in accordance with this chapter.

28 **SECTION 24. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is
29 amended and reenacted as follows:

1 **61-04.1-14. Issuance of license - Fee.**

2 The ~~board~~department of water resources shall provide, by rule, the procedure and criteria
3 for the issuance of a license. The ~~board~~department, in accordance with its rules, shall issue a
4 weather modification license to each applicant who:

- 5 1. Pays a license fee of fifty dollars.
- 6 2. Demonstrates competence to engage in weather modification operations, to the
7 satisfaction of the ~~board~~department.
- 8 3. Designates an agent for the service of process pursuant to section 61-04.1-13 or
9 chapter 10-19.1.

10 Each license issued by the ~~board~~department is nontransferable and ~~shall expire~~expires
11 on December thirty-first of the year of issuance. A license ~~shall be~~is revocable for cause at any
12 time prior to such date if, after holding a hearing upon due notice, the ~~board~~department
13 ~~determines~~determines that cause for revocation exists. License fees collected by the
14 ~~board~~department must be paid into the general fund in the state treasury.

15 **SECTION 25. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is
16 amended and reenacted as follows:

17 **61-04.1-15. Revocation or suspension of license.**

18 The ~~board~~department of water resources may suspend or revoke a license for any of the
19 following reasons:

- 20 1. Incompetency.
- 21 2. Dishonest practice.
- 22 3. False or fraudulent representations made in obtaining a license or permit under this
23 chapter.
- 24 4. Failure to comply with any provisions of this chapter or any rules adopted by the
25 ~~board~~department pursuant to this chapter.

26 **SECTION 26. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is
27 amended and reenacted as follows:

28 **61-04.1-16. Permit required - Issuance of permit - Fee.**

- 29 1. A weather modification permit ~~shall be~~is required for each geographical area, as set
30 out in the operational plan required by subdivision b, in which a person intends to
31 conduct weather modification operations. Each permit issued by the ~~board~~department

1 ~~expire~~department of water resources expires on December thirty-first of the year of
2 issuance. A person applying for a weather modification operational permit shall file an
3 application with the ~~board~~department, in such form as the ~~board shall~~
4 ~~prescribe~~department prescribes, which application ~~shall~~must be accompanied by an
5 application fee of twenty-five dollars and contain such information as the
6 ~~board~~department, by rule, may require, and in addition, each applicant for a permit
7 shall:

- 8 a. Furnish proof of financial responsibility as provided by section 61-04.1-19.
9 b. Set forth a complete operational plan for the proposed operation which ~~shall~~must
10 include a specific statement of its nature and object, a map of the proposed
11 operating area which specifies the primary target area for the proposed operation
12 and shows the area that is reasonably expected to be affected by such operation,
13 a statement of the approximate time during which the operation is to be
14 conducted, a list of the materials and methods to be used in conducting the
15 operation, and such other detailed information as may be needed to describe the
16 operation.

17 2. The ~~board~~department may issue the permit if it determines that:

- 18 a. The applicant holds a valid weather modification license issued under this
19 chapter.
20 b. The applicant has furnished satisfactory proof of financial responsibility in
21 accordance with section 61-04.1-19.
22 c. The applicant has paid the required application fee.
23 d. The operation:
24 (1) Is reasonably conceived to improve water quantity or quality, reduce loss
25 from weather hazards, provide economic benefits for the people of this
26 state, advance scientific knowledge, or otherwise carry out the purposes of
27 this chapter.
28 (2) Is designed to include adequate safeguards to minimize or avoid possible
29 damage to the public health, safety, welfare, or the environment.
30 (3) Will not adversely affect another operation for which a permit has been
31 issued.

- 1 e. The applicant has North Dakota workforce safety and insurance coverage for all
2 employees working in this state.
- 3 f. The applicant has furnished a performance bond as required by section
4 61-04.1-34.
- 5 g. The applicant has complied with such other requirements for the issuance of
6 permits as may be required by the rules and regulations of the ~~board~~department.
- 7 h. The applicant has furnished a bid bond.
- 8 i. The applicant has registered, with the North Dakota aeronautics commission, any
9 aircraft intended to be used in connection with the operation.

10 To carry out the objectives and purposes of this chapter, the ~~board~~department may
11 condition and limit permits as to primary target areas, time of the operation, materials,
12 equipment, and methods to be used in conducting the operation, emergency shutdown
13 procedure, emergency assistance, and such other operational requirements as may
14 be established by the ~~board~~department.

- 15 3. The ~~board shall~~department may issue only one permit at a time for operations in any
16 geographical area if two or more operations conducted in such an area according to
17 permit limitations might adversely interfere with one another.
- 18 4. All permit fees collected by the ~~board shall~~department must be paid into the general
19 fund of the state treasury.

20 **SECTION 27. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **61-04.1-17. Hearings.**

23 The ~~board~~department of water resources shall give public notice, in the official county
24 newspaper or newspapers in the area of the state reasonably expected to be affected by
25 operations conducted under a permit, that it is considering an application for such permit, and, if
26 objection to the issuance of the permit is received by the ~~board~~department within twenty days,
27 the ~~board~~department may hold a public hearing for the purpose of obtaining information from
28 the public concerning the effects of issuing the permit. The ~~board~~department may also hold
29 such hearings upon its own motion.

30 **SECTION 28. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
31 amended and reenacted as follows:

1 **61-04.1-18. Revocation, suspension, or modification of permit.**

2 The ~~board~~department of water resources may suspend or revoke a permit if it appears that
3 the permittee no longer has the qualifications necessary for the issuance of an original permit or
4 has violated any provision of this chapter, or any of the rules adopted under it.

5 The ~~board~~department may revise the conditions and limits of a permit if:

6 1. The permittee is given notice and a reasonable opportunity for a hearing, to be held in
7 accordance with chapter 28-32.

8 2. It appears to the ~~board~~department that a modification of the conditions and limits of a
9 permit is necessary to protect the public's health, safety, welfare, or the environment.

10 If it appears to the ~~board~~department that an emergency situation exists or is impending which
11 could endanger the public's health, safety, welfare, or the environment, the ~~board~~department
12 may, without prior notice or hearing, immediately modify the conditions or limits of a permit, or
13 order temporary suspension of a permit. The issuance of such an order ~~shall~~must include notice
14 of a hearing to be held within ten days thereafter on the question of permanently modifying the
15 conditions and limits or continuing the suspension of the permit. Failure to comply with an order
16 temporarily suspending an operation or modifying the conditions and limits of a permit ~~shall be~~is
17 grounds for immediate revocation of the license and permit of the person controlling or engaged
18 in the operation.

19 **SECTION 29. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is
20 amended and reenacted as follows:

21 **61-04.1-19. Proof of financial responsibility.**

22 Proof of financial responsibility is made by showing to the satisfaction of the
23 ~~board~~department of water resources that the permittee has the ability to respond in damages to
24 liability which might reasonably result from the operation for which the permit is sought. ~~Such~~
25 ~~proof~~Proof of financial responsibility may be shown by:

26 1. Presentation to the ~~board~~department of proof of a prepaid noncancelable insurance
27 policy against such liability, in an amount approved by the ~~board~~department.

28 2. Filing with the ~~board~~department a corporate surety bond, cash, or negotiable
29 securities in an amount approved by the ~~board~~department.

30 **SECTION 30. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-20 of the North Dakota Century Code is
31 amended and reenacted as follows:

1 **61-04.1-20. Board Department of water resources may create operating districts -**
2 **Representation of noncontracting counties.**

3 The ~~board~~department of water resources may place any county or geographical region for
4 which a person contracts with the state for weather modification operations in any operational
5 district the ~~board~~department determines necessary to best provide that county or geographical
6 region with the benefits of weather modification. In determining the boundaries of an operating
7 district, the ~~board~~deparatment shall consider the patterns of crops within the state, climatic
8 patterns, and the limitations of aircraft and other technical equipment. The ~~board~~department
9 may assign any county that has not created a weather modification authority under this chapter
10 to an operating district solely for the purpose of representation on the operations committee of
11 that district.

12 **SECTION 31. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
13 amended and reenacted as follows:

14 **61-04.1-21. District operations advisory committees created - Duties.**

- 15 1. There must be a district operations advisory committee in each operations district
16 created in accordance with section 61-04.1-20. Each committee must be composed of
17 one commissioner of the weather modification authority, if a weather modification
18 authority exists, from each county within the district; a representative of each person
19 contracting for a geographical region assigned to the district; and one member of the
20 board of county commissioners from each county assigned to the district. Each
21 advisory committee, upon majority vote, with the concurrence of the ~~board~~department
22 of water resources, shall adopt rules and bylaws necessary to govern that committee's
23 procedures and meetings. Each committee shall evaluate weather modification
24 operations within that committee's district and make recommendations and proposals
25 to the ~~board~~department concerning these operations.
- 26 2. The weather modification authority of any county authorized to contract for weather
27 modification operations under this chapter which is not assigned to an operations
28 district shall assume the functions of the district operations committee and may
29 exercise the powers and duties assigned to the operations committees by this chapter
30 and by the rules of the ~~board~~department.

1 **SECTION 32. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-33 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **61-04.1-33. Bids required - When.**

4 ~~Whenever~~if the board shall undertake to contract department of water resources contracts
5 with any licensed controller in an amount in excess of ten thousand dollars in any one year, the
6 ~~board~~department shall advertise for proposals for such weather modification activities and, in its
7 proceedings with respect to bids therefor, shall substantially follow the manner and form
8 required by the laws of this state for the purchase of supplies by the office of management and
9 budget. The ~~board shall~~department may not enter into ~~no~~ contract or agreement for weather
10 modification services except with a controller, holding the permit as required by this chapter,
11 except for the purpose of gathering technical information, and making studies or surveys.

12 **SECTION 33. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is
13 amended and reenacted as follows:

14 **61-04.1-34. Performance bond, cash, or negotiable securities required.**

15 Before the ~~board shall contract~~department of water resources contracts with any controller,
16 ~~it~~the department shall require the controller to furnish a surety bond or cash or negotiable
17 securities for the faithful performance of the contract in such amount as determined by the
18 ~~board~~department, conditioned that the licensee and the licensee's agents will in all respects
19 faithfully perform all weather modification contracts undertaken with the ~~board~~department and
20 will comply with all provisions of this chapter and the contract entered ~~into~~ by the
21 ~~board~~department and the licensee.

22 **SECTION 34. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is
23 amended and reenacted as follows:

24 **61-04.1-37. Liability of controller.**

- 25 1. An operation conducted under the license and permit requirements of this chapter is
26 not an ultrahazardous or abnormally dangerous activity which makes the permittee
27 subject to liability without fault.
- 28 2. Dissemination of materials and substances into the atmosphere by a permittee acting
29 within the conditions and limits of the permitte's permit ~~shall~~do not constitute
30 trespass.

- 1 3. Except as provided in this section and in section 61-04.1-36, ~~nothing~~ in this chapter
2 ~~shall~~does not prevent any person adversely affected by a weather modification
3 operation from recovering damages resulting from negligent or intentionally harmful
4 conduct by a permittee.
- 5 4. The fact that a person holds a license or was issued a permit under this chapter, or
6 that the person has complied with the rules adopted by the ~~board pursuant~~
7 ~~to~~department of water resources under this chapter, is not admissible as a defense in
8 any legal action which may be brought against the person.

9 **SECTION 35. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

11 **61-04.1-38. BoardDepartment of water resources may receive and expend funds.**

- 12 1. The ~~board~~department of water resources may receive and accept in the name of the
13 state any funds that are offered or become available from any federal grant or
14 appropriation, private gift, donation, or bequest, county funds, or funds from any other
15 source except license and permit fees, and to expend these funds for the expense of
16 administering this chapter, and, with the exception of county funds and funds from any
17 other person contracting with the ~~board~~department for weather modification
18 operations, for the encouragement of research and development in weather
19 modification by any private person, the North Dakota state university, the university of
20 North Dakota, or any other appropriate state, county, or public agency in this state by
21 direct grant, contract, or other means.
- 22 2. All federal grants, federal appropriations, private gifts, donations, or bequests, county
23 funds, or funds from any other source except license and permit fees, received by the
24 ~~board~~department must be paid over to the state treasurer, who shall credit this amount
25 to a special fund in the state treasury known as the state weather modification fund~~the~~
26 water commission fund. All proceeds deposited by the state treasurer in the state-
27 ~~weather modification~~water commission fund are appropriated to the ~~board~~department
28 and, if expended, must be disbursed by warrant-check prepared by the office of
29 management and budget upon vouchers submitted by the ~~board~~department and must
30 be used for the purpose of paying for the expense of administration of this chapter
31 and, with the exception of county funds or funds from any other person contracting

1 with the ~~board~~department for weather modification operations, for the encouragement
2 of research and development in weather modification by any private person, the North
3 Dakota state university, the university of North Dakota, or any other appropriate state,
4 county, or public agency by direct grant, contract, or other means.

5 **SECTION 36. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04.1-39 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **61-04.1-39. Payment for weather modification - State to provide funds.**

8 Any weather modification authority or person that contracted with the ~~board~~department of
9 water resources for weather modification operations under this chapter shall appropriate to the
10 ~~state weather modification~~water commission fund the amount determined by the
11 ~~board~~department to be necessary to provide that weather modification authority or person with
12 weather modification operations. The ~~board~~department may expend, from the ~~state weather-~~
13 ~~modification~~water commission fund, the funds the ~~board~~department deems necessary to
14 provide a contracting weather modification authority or person with weather modification
15 operations.

16 **SECTION 37. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision a of subsection 2 of section 65-02-03.1 of the
17 North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

18 a. A departing member representing an employer must be replaced by a member
19 representing an employer, most of whose employees are in a different rate
20 classification than those of the employer represented by the departing member.
21 The governor shall appoint the member for an employer representative from a list
22 of three potential candidates submitted by ~~a coordinating committee appointed by~~
23 ~~the governor, composed of an organization of business associations.~~ The
24 organization shall accept qualified candidate recommendations received from
25 representatives from the associated general contractors of North Dakota, the
26 North Dakota petroleum council, the greater North Dakota chamber of
27 commerce, the North Dakota motor carriers association, the North Dakota
28 hospital association, the national federation of independent business, the lignite
29 energy council, and other statewide business interests.

30 **SECTION 38. REPEAL.** Chapter 8-11.1, sections 12-48-06.1, 15.1-37-05, 15.1-37-06, and
31 15.1-37-08, chapter 17-07, sections 19-24.1-38, 19-24.1-39, and 23-35-02.3, chapters 34-16

1 and 43-35, sections 50-06-05.6, 50-06.4-10, 50-11.1-25, 50-11.1-26, 50-11.1-27, 52-02-07,
2 54-34.3-10, 54-54-10, 54-59-25, 54-59-33, 54-59-35, 54-59-38, 54-60-25, 61-04.1-04,
3 61-04.1-05, 61-04.1-06, 61-04.1-07, and 61-04.1-10, and chapter 61-36 of the North Dakota
4 Century Code are repealed.

5 **SECTION 39. REPEAL.** Sections 55-01-13 and 55-01-14 of the North Dakota Century
6 Code are repealed.

7 **SECTION 40. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 39 of this Act is effective December 31, 2026.

8 **SECTION 41. EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 10 of this Act is effective through December 1,
9 2026, and after that date is ineffective.