

**SENATE BILL NO. 2159
with House Amendments**

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Introduced by

Senators Hogue, Kessel, Patten

Representatives D. Anderson, Hagert, Porter

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15-11-40 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to projects the state energy research center is permitted to pursue.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-11-40 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15-11-40. State energy research center - Report.**

- 7 1. The state energy research center at the university of North Dakota energy and
8 environmental research center is created to conduct exploratory, transformational, and
9 innovative research that advances future energy opportunities and benefits the state's
10 economy and environment through:
- 11 a. Exploratory research of technologies and methodologies that facilitate the
12 prudent development, and clean and efficient use, of the state's energy
13 resources;
 - 14 b. Greater access to energy experts for timely scientific and engineering studies to
15 support the state's interests; and
 - 16 c. Education and outreach related to the state's energy resources.
- 17 2. The state energy research center shall report all research activities and
18 accomplishments annually to the interim legislative energy development and
19 transmission committee and the industrial commission. Upon request, the state energy
20 research center shall report all research activities and accomplishments to the
21 appropriations committees of the legislative assembly.

- 1 3. To carry out the purposes of this section, the energy and environmental research
2 center may:
- 3 a. Select the research topics and projects to be pursued;
- 4 b. Enter contracts or agreements with other North Dakota institutions of higher
5 education to support select research topics and projects;
- 6 c. Enter contracts or agreements with federal, private, and nonprofit organizations
7 to carry out selected research topics and projects; and
- 8 d. Accept donations, grants, contributions, and gifts from any source to carry out the
9 selected research topics and projects.
- 10 4. ~~The~~ if approved by the industrial commission and conducted in consultation with the
11 high-level radioactive waste advisory council, the state energy research center may
12 not conduct research or pursue projects that will result in the exploration, storage,
13 treatment, or disposal of high-level radioactive waste above ground in North Dakota.