

May 2, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2225

Introduced by

Senators Bekkedahl, Meyer, Wanzek

Representatives Nathe, Nelson, O'Brien

In place of amendment (25.1186.02005) adopted by the House, Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2225 is amended by amendment (25.1186.02009) as follows:

- 1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for a housing for
2 opportunity, mobility, and empowerment program; to provide for a legislative management
3 report; and to declare an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - STRATEGIC**
6 **INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - HOUSING FOR OPPORTUNITY, MOBILITY,**
7 **AND EMPOWERMENT GRANT PROGRAM - MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT -**
8 **LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REPORT - ONE-TIME FUNDING.**

- 9 1. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the strategic investment and
10 improvements fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of
11 ~~\$50,000,000~~ \$25,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the
12 department of commerce for the purpose of providing housing for opportunity, mobility,
13 and empowerment program grants to political subdivisions to build infrastructure
14 necessary to support affordable, market rate housing for the period beginning with the
15 effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2027. This ~~funding~~ appropriation is
16 considered a one-time funding item.
- 17 2. The department of commerce shall use funding appropriated in this section to provide
18 grants to political subdivisions to assist communities and address housing needs by
19 lowering the cost of infrastructure development and for slum and blight removal and

1 remediation. The department shall allow a community to ~~identity~~identify the type of
2 housing most needed and cooperatively create solutions to address the housing need
3 through a political subdivision, tribal entity, or economic development corporation. The
4 department shall establish guidelines for providing grants under the program. The
5 department may provide funding for a project that includes existing residential lots only
6 after a certificate of occupancy has been issued for a newly constructed home on one
7 of the existing lots.

8 3. The department of commerce shall allocate funding appropriated in this section as
9 follows:

10 a. ~~\$10,000,000~~\$7,000,000 for communities with a population of fewer than 5,000
11 individuals;

12 b. ~~\$20,000,000~~\$10,500,000 for communities with a population of 5,001 to 20,000
13 individuals;

14 c. ~~\$15,000,000~~\$6,000,000 for communities with a population of more than 20,000
15 individuals; and

16 d. ~~\$5,000,000~~\$1,500,000 for rural metropolitan areas located within 20 miles of the
17 city limits of a community of more than 20,000 individuals.

18 4. The maximum grant award for a community with more than 20,000 individuals is
19 ~~\$1,500,000~~\$1,000,000.

20 5. If all funding appropriated in this section is not committed or expended by
21 December 31, 2026, the department of commerce may award any remaining funds to
22 viable projects regardless of community size or location.

23 6. The department of commerce may spend up to one-third of the total project costs from
24 the funds appropriated in this section only to the extent two-thirds matching funds
25 have been secured from nonstate sources ~~on a dollar-for-dollar basis~~. The matching
26 funds must be derived from funds provided by a political subdivision ~~and~~ tribal entity,
27 or local developers and private funds from within the community applying for grant
28 funding. The private funds from within the community may be from a local
29 development corporation, donations, or in-kind contributions.

30 7. The department of commerce shall provide a report to the legislative management and
31 the governor by June 30, 2026, regarding the status of the program, including

1 expenditures to date, the number of housing units supported, communities applying for
2 grants, and matching funds raised by political subdivisions, local developers, and
3 communities.

4 **SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.