

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Conference Committee Amendments
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2225**

Introduced by

Senators Bekkedahl, Meyer, Wanzek

Representatives Nathe, Nelson, O'Brien

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for a community
2 property improvement grant program; to provide for a legislative management report; and to
3 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 - COMMUNITY PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT**
7 **GRANT PROGRAM - MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT**
8 **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 \$5,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of
12 commerce for the purpose of providing community property improvement grants to
13 political subdivisions for slum and blight removal and remediation for the period
14 beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2027. This
15 appropriation is considered a one-time funding item.

16 2. The department of commerce shall use funding appropriated in this section to provide
17 grants to political subdivisions to assist communities and address housing needs
18 through slum and blight removal and remediation. The department shall allow a
19 community to identify the type of housing most needed and cooperatively create
20 solutions to address the housing need through a political subdivision, tribal entity, or
21 economic development corporation. The department shall establish guidelines for
22 providing grants under the program.

- 1 3. The department of commerce shall allocate funding appropriated in this section to
- 2 communities with a population of fewer than 4,500 individuals.
- 3 4. If all funding appropriated in this section is not committed or expended by
- 4 December 31, 2026, the department of commerce may award any remaining funds to
- 5 viable projects regardless of community size or location.
- 6 5. The department of commerce may spend the funds appropriated in this section only to
- 7 the extent matching funds have been secured from nonstate sources on a
- 8 dollar-for-dollar basis. The matching funds must be derived from funds provided by a
- 9 political subdivision, tribal entity, or local developers and private funds from within the
- 10 community applying for grant funding. The private funds from within the community
- 11 may be from a local development corporation, donations, or in-kind contributions.
- 12 6. The department of commerce shall provide a report to the legislative management and
- 13 the governor by June 30, 2026, regarding the status of the program, including
- 14 expenditures to date, the number of housing units supported, communities applying for
- 15 grants, and matching funds raised by political subdivisions, local developers, and
- 16 communities.

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