Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

FIRST ENGROSSMENT with Senate Amendments ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1600

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Sanford, Schreiber-Beck Senators Axtman, Sickler

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-11 of the North Dakota
- 2 Century Code, relating to the establishment of the immigration law clinic at the university of
- 3 North Dakota school of law; to provide for a report; and to provide an appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Immigration law clinic.

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- The university of North Dakota school of law shall employ one full-time staff attorney
 for the immigration law clinic. The immigration law clinic attorney may not have more
 than sixty matters open at any one time.
- 11 2. Legal services may be provided and legal work may be done remotely, depending on
 12 the needs of the client.
- 3. The university of North Dakota law school may charge nominal fees, as needed, to
 operate the immigration law clinic.

15 SECTION 2. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF LAW - IMMIGRATION LAW

- 16 **CLINIC REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** The university of North Dakota school of
- 17 law shall prepare a report on the status of the immigration law clinic, including the impact of the
- 18 operation of the immigration law clinic on the school of law, the sustainability of the clinic based
- 19 on fee collections, the number of law students interested in participating in the clinic, the
- 20 number of law students participating in the clinic, and the number of student hours of
- 21 involvement. The report must also include the number of businesses, employers, and
- 22 individuals seeking legal services, the location of the individuals or entities seeking services,

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- 1 and the scope of work requested. The report must also identify any obstacles encountered in
- 2 developing the clinic, potential future challenges for the clinic, a detailed plan to meet these
- 3 challenges, and any legislation necessary to support the recommendations for the clinic's
- 4 successful operation. The university of North Dakota school of law shall present the report to
- 5 the seventieth legislative assembly.
- 6 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS
- 7 FUND OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET IMMIGRATION LAW CLINIC -
- 8 **ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the strategic investment and
- 9 improvements fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$400,000, or so
- much of the sum as may be necessary, to the office of management and budget for the purpose
- of providing a grant to the university of North Dakota to fund an immigration law clinic at the
- 12 university of North Dakota school of law, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending
- 13 June 30, 2027. The appropriation provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.