

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

SENATE BILL NO. 2368
(Senators Kessel, Patten)
(Representatives Kempenich, J. Olson)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a grasslands grazing grant program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Grasslands grazing grant program.

1. The agriculture commissioner shall administer a grasslands grazing grant program to provide grants to organizations representing cooperative grazing associations in the state.
2.
 - a. An organization that receives a grant under this program may distribute the funding to cooperative grazing associations for eligible infrastructure projects, which must be located on national grasslands within the state.
 - b. Eligible infrastructure projects include:
 - (1) Water development.
 - (2) Fencing.
 - (3) Conservation initiatives.
 - (4) Compliance with federal permitting requirements, including fees for professional services.
 - (5) Other projects to enhance wildlife habitat, capture carbon, or increase the health of grasslands.
 - c. Program participants shall develop and implement a grazing land plan in compliance with local soil conservation district guidance, and the plan must be approved by the local soil conservation district.
3. To be eligible for a grant, an organization shall provide one dollar of matching funds from nonstate sources for every four dollars of grant funding. The agriculture commissioner shall establish additional guidelines for the program.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2368.

Senate Vote: Yeas 44 Nays 1 Absent 2

House Vote: Yeas 84 Nays 8 Absent 2

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2025,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State