

Introduced by

Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee

(At the request of the Agriculture Commissioner)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-33 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to pesticide certification standards; and to amend and reenact sections
3 4.1-33-01 and 4.1-33-03, subdivision b of subsection 1 of section 4.1-33-12, section 4.1-33-13,
4 subsection 1 of section 4.1-33-16, and subsection 5 of section 4.1-33-20 of North Dakota
5 Century Code, relating to pesticide control.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 4.1-33-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **4.1-33-01. Definitions.**

10 As used in this chapter:

- 11 1. "Animal" means all vertebrate and invertebrate species, including humans and other
12 mammals, birds, fish, and shellfish.
- 13 2. "Antimicrobial pesticide" means a substance or mixture of substances intended for
14 preventing, destroying, repelling, suppressing, or mitigating the growth of
15 micro-organisms, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi on inanimate objects and
16 surfaces.
- 17 3. "Applicator" means any person who applies a pesticide to land.
- 18 4. "Certified applicator" means any individual who is certified under this chapter to
19 purchase or use a restricted use pesticide.
- 20 5. "Commercial applicator" means a person who, by contract or for hire, engages in the
21 business of applying pesticides for compensation.
- 22 6. "Defoliant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to cause the
23 leaves or foliage to drop from a plant, with or without causing abscission.

- 1 7. "Desiccant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to artificially
2 accelerate the drying of plant tissue.
- 3 8. "Device" means any instrument or contrivance, other than a firearm, which is intended
4 for trapping, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest or any other form of plant or
5 animal life, other than human and other than bacteria, virus, or other micro-organism
6 on or in living humans or other living animals, but not including equipment used for the
7 application of pesticides when sold separately from pesticide.
- 8 9. "Distribute" means to offer for sale, hold for sale, sell, barter, ship, deliver, or supply
9 pesticides in this state.
- 10 10. "Environment" includes water, air, land, and all plants and humans and other animals
11 living therein, and the interrelationships that exist among them.
- 12 11. "Equipment" means any type of ground, water, or aerial equipment or contrivance
13 using motorized, mechanical, or pressurized power and used to apply any pesticide on
14 land and anything that may be growing, inhabiting, or stored on or in that land. The
15 term does not include any pressurized hand-held household apparatus used to apply
16 any pesticide, or any equipment or contrivance of which the individual who is applying
17 the pesticide is the source of power or energy to make the pesticide application.
- 18 12. "Fungus" means any non-chlorophyll-bearing thallophytes, that is, any
19 non-chlorophyll-bearing plant of a lower order than mosses and liverworts as, for
20 example, rust, smut, mildew, mold, yeast, and bacteria, except those on or in living
21 humans or other living animals, and except those on or in processed food, beverages,
22 or pharmaceuticals.
- 23 13. "Insect" means any of the numerous small invertebrate animals generally having the
24 body more or less obviously segmented, for the most part belonging to the class of
25 insecta, comprising six-legged, usually winged forms, and to other allied classes of
26 arthropods whose members are wingless and usually have more than six legs.
- 27 14. "Label" means the written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to, the pesticide
28 or device or any of its containers or wrappers.
- 29 15. "Labeling" means the label and all other written, printed, or graphic matter:
30 a. Accompanying the pesticide or device; or

- 1 b. To which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying or referring
2 to the pesticide, except when accurate nonmisleading references are made to
3 current official publications of the board, the United States environmental
4 protection agency, the United States departments of agriculture and interior, the
5 United States department of health and human services, state agricultural
6 colleges, and other similar federal or state institutions or agencies authorized by
7 law to conduct research in the field of pesticides.
- 8 16. "Land" means all land and water areas, including airspace, and all plants, animals,
9 structures, buildings, contrivances, and machinery, appurtenant to or situated on land,
10 fixed or mobile, including any used for transportation.
- 11 17. "Nematode" means invertebrate animals of the phylum nemathelminthes, and class
12 nematoda, i.e., unsegmented round worms with elongated, fusiform, or saclike bodies
13 covered with cuticle, and inhabiting soil, water, plants, or plant parts, may also be
14 called nemas or eelworms.
- 15 18. "Pest" means any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, or weed; or any other form of
16 terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life, viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organism,
17 except viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organisms on or in living humans or other
18 living animals.
- 19 19. "Pesticide" means:
20 a. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying,
21 repelling, or mitigating any pest; and
22 b. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator,
23 defoliant, or desiccant.
- 24 20. "Pesticide certification standards" means the requirements under title 40, Code of
25 Federal Regulations, sections 171.101 through 171.107, as those sections existed on
26 January 4, 2017.
- 27 21. "Pesticide dealer" means any person, other than a pesticide wholesaler, distributing
28 pesticides.
- 29 ~~21-22.~~ "Plant regulator" means any substance or mixture of substances intended, through
30 physiological action, to accelerate or retard the rate of growth or rate of maturation, or
31 to otherwise alter the behavior of plants or the produce thereof, but does not include

1 substances to the extent that they are intended as plant nutrients, trace elements,
2 nutritional chemicals, plant inoculants, or soil amendments.

3 ~~22-23.~~ "Private applicator" means an individual who is required to be a certified applicator to
4 buy or use a restricted use pesticide on property owned or rented by the applicator or
5 the applicator's employer or, if applied without compensation other than trading of
6 personal services between producers of agricultural commodities, on the property of
7 another person.

8 ~~23-24.~~ "Public applicator" means an applicator who applies pesticides, other than
9 ready-to-use pesticides, as an employee of:

10 a. A governmental agency, municipal corporation, or public utility; or

11 b. A hospital, privately owned golf course, nursery, or greenhouse.

12 ~~24-25.~~ "Ready-to-use pesticide" means a pesticide other than a restricted use pesticide which
13 is applied directly from its original container consistent with label directions, and
14 includes aerosol spray cans, ready-to-use spray containers, bait packs, and other
15 types of containers that do not require mixing or loading before application.

16 ~~25-26.~~ "Restricted use pesticide" means any pesticide formulation that is classified as
17 restricted use by the United States environmental protection agency or the agriculture
18 commissioner under section 4.1-34-06.

19 ~~26-27.~~ "Rinsate" means a diluted mixture of pesticide obtained from triple rinsing or pressure
20 rinsing pesticide containers or from rinsing the inside and outside of spray equipment.

21 ~~27-28.~~ "Tank mix" means any pesticidal formulation used alone or in combination with another
22 pesticide and mixed with a liquid carrier prior to application.

23 ~~28-29.~~ "Unreasonable adverse effects on the environment" means any unreasonable risk to
24 humans or the environment, taking into account the economic, social, and
25 environmental costs and benefits of the use of any pesticide.

26 ~~29-30.~~ "Weed" means any plant that grows where not wanted.

27 ~~30-31.~~ "Wildlife" means all living things that are neither human, domesticated, nor, as defined
28 in this chapter, pests, including mammals, birds, and aquatic life.

29 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 4.1-33 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
30 and enacted as follows:

1 **Standards for pesticide certification.**

2 The pesticide certification standards as defined under section 4.1-33-01, are incorporated
3 by reference and made part of this chapter.

4 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 4.1-33-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **4.1-33-03. Pesticide control board to administer chapter and adopt rules.**

7 1. a. The pesticide control board shall administer this chapter and may adopt rules
8 under chapter 28-32 to implement this chapter. The rules may prescribe methods
9 to be used in the application of pesticides. The rules may relate to the time,
10 place, manner, methods, materials, and amounts and concentrations, in
11 connection with the application of the pesticide, and may restrict or prohibit use of
12 pesticides in designated areas during specified periods of time and shall
13 encompass all reasonable factors which the board deems necessary to prevent
14 damage or injury by drift or misapplication to:

15 (1) Plants, including forage plants, on adjacent or nearby lands.

16 (2) Wildlife in the adjoining or nearby areas.

17 (3) Fish and other aquatic life in waters in proximity to the area to be treated.

18 (4) Persons, animals, or beneficial insects.

19 b. In adopting rules, the board shall give consideration to pertinent research findings
20 and recommendations of other agencies of this state, the federal government, or
21 other reliable sources.

22 2. In adopting rules under this chapter, the board shall prescribe standards and
23 requirements for the certification of applicators of pesticides. These standards and
24 requirements must relate to the use and handling of pesticides. In determining these
25 standards and requirements, the board shall ~~take into consideration~~ adopt standards
26 and requirements prescribed by the United States environmental protection agency in
27 the pesticide certification standards.

28 3. Rules adopted under this chapter may not permit any pesticide use that is prohibited
29 by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.] or
30 regulations or orders issued thereunder.

- 1 4. To comply with the pesticide certification standards and the Federal Insecticide,
2 Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.], the board ~~may~~shall make
3 reports to the United States environmental protection agency in the form and
4 containing the information as that agency requires.
- 5 5. Rules to implement this chapter may provide for:
- 6 a. The collection, examination, and reporting of samples of pesticides.
- 7 b. The safe handling, transportation, storage, display, distribution, and disposal of
8 pesticides and pesticides containers.
- 9 c. The identification of pests under this chapter when the board finds particular
10 organisms to be annoying or otherwise injurious or harmful to agriculture, health,
11 and the environment.

12 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision b of subsection 1 of section 4.1-33-12 of the North
13 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 14 b. An individual who would be a private applicator, if certified, may not use any
15 restricted use pesticide unless the individual:
- 16 (1) ~~Complies~~ complies with the certification requirements established by the
17 board; ~~or~~
- 18 (2) ~~Is under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.~~

19 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 4.1-33-13 of the North Dakota Century Code is
20 amended and reenacted as follows:

21 **4.1-33-13. Unlawful acts – ~~Grounds~~ grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation**
22 **of a certification.**

- 23 1. It is a violation of this chapter for any person to:
- 24 ~~1.~~ a. Make false or fraudulent claims through any media, misrepresenting the effect of
25 materials or methods to be utilized, or advertise a pesticide without reference to
26 its classification.
- 27 ~~2.~~ b. Make a pesticide recommendation, application, or use inconsistent with the
28 labeling or other restrictions prescribed by the board.
- 29 ~~3.~~ c. Apply materials known by that person to be ineffective or improper.
- 30 ~~4.~~ d. Operate faulty or unsafe equipment.
- 31 ~~5.~~ e. Operate in a faulty, careless, or negligent manner.

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- 1 6. f. Neglect or, after notice, refuse to comply with this chapter, the rules adopted to
2 implement this chapter, or any lawful order of the commissioner.
- 3 7. g. Refuse or neglect to keep and maintain the records required by this chapter or to
4 make reports when and as required.
- 5 8. h. Make false or fraudulent records, invoices, or reports.
- 6 9. i. Apply pesticide to the property of another, without the permission of the owner or
7 lessee, unless the application is made under the direction of a governmental
8 entity.
- 9 10. j. Use fraud or misrepresentation in making an application for, or for renewal of,
10 certification.
- 11 11. k. Refuse or neglect to comply with any limitations or restrictions on or in a duly
12 issued certification.
- 13 12. l. Aid or abet a person to evade this chapter, conspire with a person to evade this
14 chapter, or allow the person's certification to be used by another person.
- 15 13. m. Knowingly make false statements during or after an inspection or an
16 investigation.
- 17 14. n. Impersonate a federal, state, county, or city inspector or official.
- 18 15. o. Distribute any restricted use pesticide to any person who is not properly certified
19 to use or purchase the pesticide.
- 20 16. p. Buy, use, or supervise the use of any pesticide without first complying with the
21 certification requirements of this chapter, unless otherwise exempted.
- 22 17. q. Apply any pesticide that is not registered under chapter 4.1-34.
- 23 2. A certification issued under this chapter may be denied, removed, or suspended if a
24 person:
- 25 a. Receives a criminal conviction under section 136l of the Federal Insecticide,
26 Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.];
- 27 b. Is subject to a final order imposing a civil penalty under section 136l of the
28 Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.]; or
- 29 c. Is subject to a concluded enforcement action for a violation of state law or
30 regulation relating to pesticide use.

1 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 4.1-33-16 of the North Dakota Century
2 Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

3 1. The certification requirements of this chapter do not apply to an individual applying
4 nonrestricted use pesticides under the direct supervision of a private or commercial
5 applicator, unless the pesticide label requires that a certified applicator personally
6 apply the pesticide. A pesticide is applied under the direct supervision of a private or
7 commercial applicator if the pesticide is applied by an individual acting under the
8 instruction and control of a certified applicator who is physically available if needed.
9 The certified applicator need not be present when the pesticide is applied. Direct
10 supervision with respect to applications using aircraft requires that the pilot of the
11 aircraft be appropriately certified. ~~The certification requirements of this chapter do not~~
12 ~~apply to a competent person applying restricted use pesticides under the direct~~
13 ~~supervision of a private applicator, unless the pesticide label requires that a certified~~
14 ~~applicator personally apply the particular pesticide. A pesticide is deemed to be~~
15 ~~applied under the direct supervision of a private applicator if it is applied by a~~
16 ~~competent person acting under the instruction and control of a private applicator who~~
17 ~~is available if and when needed, even though the private applicator is not physically~~
18 ~~present at the time and place that the pesticide is applied.~~

19 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 5 of section 4.1-33-20 of the North Dakota Century
20 Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

21 5. After providing an opportunity for a hearing, the commissioner may deny, suspend,
22 revoke, or modify the provision of any certification issued under this chapter, if the
23 commissioner determines that the applicant for certification or the holder of a
24 certificate has violated this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter, or has a
25 criminal conviction is subject to a final order imposing a civil penalty under section 136I
26 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act [7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.].