

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

### HOUSE BILL NO. 1538

Introduced by

Representatives Novak, Brandenburg, Davis, Grueneich, Hagert, Hanson, Nelson, Beltz  
Senator Conley

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to creating a spay and neuter awareness ~~grant~~ program; ~~to amend and~~  
3 ~~reenact section 4.1-41-19 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the environment and~~  
4 ~~rangeland protection fund; and to provide an appropriation.~~

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

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

8 **Spay and neuter awareness ~~grant~~ program.**

9 1. The commissioner shall create and administer a spay and neuter awareness ~~grant~~  
10 program ~~through the environment and rangeland protection fund.~~

11 ~~2. The commissioner shall award grants to applicants engaging into:~~

12 a. ~~Promoting~~ Promote the use of spaying and neutering services in the state; and

13 b. ~~Offering and performing~~ Assist a person performing spaying and neutering  
14 services in the state.

15 ~~3.2.~~ In consultation with the state veterinarian, the commissioner shall adopt rules in  
16 accordance with chapter 28-32 to implement the provisions of this section.

17 ~~**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 4.1-41-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is~~  
18 ~~amended and reenacted as follows:~~

1 ~~4.1 41-19. Deposit of fees.~~

2 ~~The commissioner shall forward all inspection fees, license fees, and registration fees~~  
3 ~~received under this chapter to the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall deposit the first~~  
4 ~~seven hundred twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars of revenue received from fees~~  
5 ~~received under this chapter each biennium in the environment and rangeland protection fund~~  
6 ~~and any remaining fees in the general fund.~~

7 ~~SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER - SPAY AND NEUTER~~  
8 ~~AWARENESS GRANT PROGRAM - ONE-TIME FUNDING.~~ There is appropriated out of any  
9 moneys in the environment and rangeland protection fund in the state treasury, not otherwise  
10 appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the  
11 agriculture commissioner for the purpose of creating and administering the spay and neuter  
12 awareness grant program under section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025,  
13 and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time  
14 funding item.

1 **Polluting atmospheric activity - Penalty.**

- 2 1. A person may not engage in a polluting atmospheric activity or use an unmarked or  
3 unidentified aircraft, vehicle, or facility for weather engineering, cloud seeding,  
4 stratospheric aerosol injection, or other atmospheric activity that is harmful to a human  
5 or the environment, including the production of excessive electromagnetic radiation.  
6 2. Any person that violates this section is guilty of a class C felony and subject to a fine  
7 of not more than five hundred thousand dollars.

8 **Exemption.**

9 This chapter does not apply to an individual who operates an aircraft for aerial application of  
10 agricultural chemicals or materials.

11 **Reporting and investigative requirements.**

- 12 1. Any individual may report an aircraft, facility, or other delivery system used for weather  
13 engineering, cloud seeding, stratospheric aerosol injection, or any atmospheric  
14 experimentation involving the release of polluting emissions to the sheriff in the county  
15 in which the activity was observed or suspected. If the sheriff finds the evidence  
16 reported to be credible, the sheriff shall investigate the reported activity and may  
17 report any prohibited activity to the county state's attorney for prosecution.  
18 2. The director and each county sheriff shall encourage the public to monitor, measure,  
19 document, and report any incident that may constitute cloud seeding, stratospheric  
20 aerosol injection, weather engineering, or any other polluting atmospheric activity. An  
21 individual with evidence of a polluting atmospheric activity may report the activity to  
22 the director or the sheriff by submitting:  
23 a. A photograph that includes the date, time, and location the photograph was  
24 taken;  
25 b. An independent precipitation analysis report, audiography, microscopy,  
26 spectrometry, metering, or any other form of evidence; or  
27 c. A video recording of activity involving the release of polluting atmospheric  
28 emissions.  
29 3. If the director suspects prohibited activity has occurred based on the evidence  
30 provided, the director shall report all documentary and supportive evidence to the  
31 sheriff in writing within twenty-four hours.

