

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2078

Introduced by

Judiciary Committee

(At the request of the Supreme Court)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 27-09.1-05.1 of the North Dakota Century
2 Code, relating to selection of jurors from a judicial district in the event of a natural disaster.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 27-09.1-05.1 of the 1997 Supplement to the
5 North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **27-09.1-05.1. Selection of jurors from judicial district - Impact of natural disaster -**
7 **Grounds and method for selection.** The court, upon its own motion, may direct that
8 prospective jurors be selected from one or more counties in the judicial district in which the
9 court is located if the county of venue has a population of not more than ten thousand persons
10 and the court determines that the number of prospective jurors within the county of venue is
11 inadequate to obtain a fair and impartial jury. Following notification by the court, the clerk of
12 court of any county in the judicial district shall submit a specified number of names, with mailing
13 addresses, of the prospective, qualified jurors to the clerk of court of the county of venue. If a
14 natural disaster impairs the selection of a sufficient number of prospective jurors in any county,
15 the supreme court, by emergency order, may authorize the court in the affected county to
16 obtain additional names and mailing addresses of prospective, qualified jurors from the clerk of
17 court of an adjoining county in the judicial district or from the clerk of court of another county in
18 the judicial district if a sufficient number of names and addresses is not available from the
19 adjoining county.