

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

SENATE BILL NO. 2068
(Finance and Taxation Committee)
(At the request of the Tax Commissioner)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 6 of section 57-02-27.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the valuation and assessment of inundated agricultural land for property tax purposes; to provide an effective date; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 6 of section 57-02-27.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6. For purposes of this section, "inundated agricultural land" means property classified as agricultural property containing a minimum of ten contiguous acres if the value of the inundated land exceeds ten percent of the average agricultural value of noncropland for the county, which is inundated to an extent making it unsuitable for growing crops or grazing farm animals for a full two consecutive growing seasons or more, and which produced revenue from any source in the most recent prior year which is less than the county average revenue per acre for noncropland calculated by the agricultural economics department of the North Dakota state university. Application for classification as inundated agricultural land must be made in writing to the township assessor or county director of tax equalization by March thirty-first of each year, except that for the year 2001, the written application must be made within ninety days from the filing of this Act with the secretary of state. Before all or part of a parcel of property may be classified as inundated agricultural land, the board of county commissioners must approve that classification for that property for the taxable year. The agricultural value of inundated agricultural lands for purposes of this section must be determined by the agricultural economics department of North Dakota state university to be ten percent of the average agricultural value of noncropland for the county as determined under this section. Valuation of individual parcels of inundated agricultural land may recognize the probability that the property will be suitable for agricultural production as cropland or for grazing farm animals in the future.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000.

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

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 Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2068 and that two-thirds of the members-elect of the Senate voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 49 Nays 0 Absent 0

President of the Senate

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that two-thirds of the members-elect of the House of Representatives voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 87 Nays 8 Absent 3

Speaker of the House

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,

at ___ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State