

Fifty-seventh
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2277

Introduced by

Senators Urlacher, Wardner

Representatives Haas, F. Klein

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 16.1-01 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to projections of election results before the closing of the polls; and to
3 amend and reenact section 16.1-01-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to closing of
4 the polls.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-01-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **16.1-01-03. Opening and closing of the polls.** The polls at all primary, general, and
9 special elections must be opened at nine a.m. or at ~~such an~~ an earlier hour, but not earlier than
10 seven a.m., ~~that may be~~ designated for any precinct by resolution of the governing body of the
11 city or county in which ~~such the~~ the precinct is located except that in precincts in which seventy-five
12 or fewer votes were cast in the last general election, the governing body may direct that the
13 polls be opened at twelve noon. ~~They~~ The polls must remain open continuously until ~~seven~~
14 ~~p.m. or such later hour, not later than nine p.m., as may be designated for a precinct by~~
15 ~~resolution of the governing body of the city or county in which the precinct is located~~ in the
16 central time zone and eight p.m. in the mountain time zone. All electors standing in line to vote
17 at the time the polls are set to close must be allowed to vote, but electors arriving after closing
18 time may not be allowed to vote. The election officers present ~~are responsible for determining~~
19 shall determine who arrived in time to vote, and ~~they~~ shall establish appropriate procedures for
20 making that determination. All determinations required to be made pursuant to this section
21 relating to polling hours must be made, and the county auditor notified of them, no later than
22 thirty days prior to an election.

23 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 16.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
24 created and enacted as follows:

- 1 **Projections of election results - Restriction.** No person may publicly by radio,
- 2 television, or other electronic media broadcast or publish election results or projections of
- 3 election results on the day of any statewide primary, general, or special election until the polls
- 4 are closed.