

SENATE BILL NO. 2271

Introduced by

Senators Lee, T. Mathern

Representatives Gulleson, Keiser

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 52-08 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to creation of a regional work force training investment program; and to
3 provide a continuing appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 52-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Regional work force training investment program - Investment fee - Board of**
8 **directors - Continuing appropriation.**

- 9 1. Except for employers with fewer than twenty-six employees and public and private
10 elementary and secondary schools, job service North Dakota shall assess each
11 employer a work force training investment fee of one-tenth of one percent of
12 taxable wages paid by the employer to employees during each calendar year. The
13 work force training investment fee is a fee separate from contributions made under
14 chapter 52-04 and may not be deposited in the unemployment compensation fund.
15 Job service shall assess the fee on an annual basis and may assess the fee in the
16 same manner as it collects contributions and taxable wages reported by
17 reimbursing employers under chapter 52-04. The work force training investment
18 fee payments may not be included in computing unemployment compensation
19 rates assigned to employers and may not be deducted by an employer from the
20 wages of the employer's employees.
- 21 2. Job service North Dakota shall deposit funds collected under this section in a work
22 force training investment fund. Administrative costs incurred by job service for
23 collection of the work force training investment fee and for costs related to the
24 establishment and maintenance of the work force training investment account must

1 be paid from the work force training investment fund. Job service North Dakota
2 shall designate four regions reflecting the geographical areas of work force training
3 responsibility in the state. Each region is represented by a regional work force
4 training investment board and is eligible for funds under this section. Funds
5 collected under this section must be allocated for use in the region of the state in
6 which the funds were collected based upon covered employment, as defined by job
7 service, in that region of the state.

- 8 3. Local development corporations in each region shall appoint, on a per capita basis,
9 a board of directors for that region's regional work force training investment board.
10 The membership of a board of directors shall include professional human
11 resources managers from primary sector employers. The four regional work force
12 training investment boards, in cooperation with job service North Dakota and local
13 development corporations, shall use the funds to provide work force training
14 programs, acquire equipment, market the program, perform studies, and develop
15 the program. The regions shall determine areas of existing and anticipated labor
16 shortage and underemployment in order to assist in establishing appropriate
17 training curriculum and focus. A region may contract with the private sector and
18 with educational institutions to provide services under the program.
- 19 4. Each region providing a work force training program shall submit a report annually
20 to the governor, the state board of higher education, the state board for vocational
21 and technical education, job service North Dakota, and the North Dakota workforce
22 development council regarding the work force training programs receiving funds
23 under this section.
- 24 5. All money in the work force training investment fund is appropriated on a
25 continuing basis to job service North Dakota and to the regional work force training
26 investment boards for carrying out the purposes of this section.