

Introduced by

Representatives Berg, Keiser, Svedjan

Senators Cook, Stenehjem, Wardner

(Approved by the Delayed Bills Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative council study of the state's business climate; and to
2 provide for an appropriation.

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

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - NORTH DAKOTA BUSINESS**

5 **CLIMATE - REPORT.** During the 2003-04 interim, the legislative council shall study the state's
6 business climate, including the creation of an index of key objective measurement that address
7 the state's competitiveness with other states; the consideration of methods of creating business
8 partnerships with North Dakota Indian tribes in order to increase primary sector business
9 growth in the state; and active participation in the activities of the primary sector business
10 congress. In conducting the study, the legislative council shall create a primary sector business
11 congress. The congress must include representatives of primary sector business and may
12 include representatives of local economic developers and the executive branch. The congress
13 shall assist in the business climate study; shall evaluate the impact of existing state economic
14 development programs on primary sector businesses; identify methods to increase primary
15 sector business job growth in the state; and prioritize for the legislative council the state's
16 primary sector business economic development programs and initiatives. As determined
17 necessary, the legislative council shall use consultant services. Any consultant report to the
18 legislative council must include a summary of the activities and outcome of the services
19 provided. The legislative council shall report its findings and recommendations, together with
20 any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the fifty-ninth legislative
21 assembly.

22 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
23 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$200,000, or so much
24 of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the biennium beginning July 1,

Fifty-eighth
Legislative Assembly

- 1 2003, and ending June 30, 2005, for the purpose of contracting with a consultant to assist in the
- 2 study as provided in section 1 of this Act.