

Fifty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

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, with a focus on business opportunities that may be available to North
10 Dakota Indian tribes through the United States small business administration 8(a) business
11 development program; and active participation in the activities of the primary sector business
12 congress. In conducting the study, the legislative council shall create a primary sector business
13 congress. The congress must include representatives of primary sector business and may
14 include representatives of local economic developers and the executive branch. The congress
15 shall assist in the business climate study; evaluate the impact of existing state economic
16 development programs on primary sector businesses; identify methods to increase primary
17 sector business job growth in the state; and prioritize for the legislative council the state's
18 primary sector business economic development programs and initiatives. The legislative
19 council shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to
20 implement the recommendations, to the fifty-ninth legislative assembly.

21 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
22 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$25,000, or so much
23 of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the biennium beginning July 1,

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- 1 2003, and ending June 30, 2005, for the purpose of conducting the study as provided in
- 2 section 1 of this Act.