

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-34.3 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the creation of a statewide manufacturers' association; to provide a
3 report to the legislative council; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide an
4 expiration date.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-34.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 created and enacted as follows:

8 **Division of economic development and finance - Manufacturers' association -**
9 **Continuing appropriation.** The division, through the state's manufacturing extension
10 partnership, shall form a statewide manufacturers' association. The association shall develop a
11 program for identifying and capturing private procurement opportunities for North Dakota
12 businesses. The association may contract with a third-party service provider to assist in
13 creating and implementing the program under this section. The association may enlist the
14 cooperation of public and private organizations, including public and private institutions of
15 higher education, state agencies, and private entities. The association may set and charge a
16 membership fee to association members. A special account is established in the state treasury
17 and designated as the manufacturers' association fund. The association shall deposit in the
18 fund all moneys received by the association under this section. The moneys in the fund are
19 appropriated to the department on a continuing basis, as necessary, for the purpose of
20 implementing this section. If the state's role in administering the manufacturers' association
21 terminates as the result of establishing a private manufacturers' association, any unobligated
22 moneys in the manufacturers' association fund must be conveyed to the private manufacturers'
23 association.

1 **SECTION 2. REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.** During the 2005-06 and 2007-08
2 interims, the commissioner of commerce shall report to the legislative council on the status of
3 the manufacturers' association under section 1 of this Act. This report must include information
4 regarding how the manufacturers' association has been established, the activities of the
5 manufacturers' association, whether there are potential changes that could be made to improve
6 the networking of manufacturing businesses and other suppliers in this state, and whether the
7 state should continue its lead position in the administration of the manufacturers' association or
8 whether the association would be better served by moving to a more privatized structure.

9 **SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective through July 31,
10 2009, and after that date is ineffective.