

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 local economic development services provided by the division of
3 economic development and finance; to provide for a report to the legislative council; and to
4 provide a continuing appropriation.

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 **Local economic development services - Continuing appropriation.** The director
9 shall implement a program through which the division provides services to local economic
10 developers. The program must include mentorship services to assist local economic
11 developers in rural communities and training services to assist in providing local economic
12 developers with basic economic development tools and techniques. The director may contract
13 with a third-party service provider to assist in implementing the program. The director may set
14 and charge a fee for the receipt of services under this program. A special account is
15 established in the state treasury and designated as the local economic development services
16 fund. The department of commerce shall deposit in the fund all moneys received by the
17 department under this section. The moneys in the fund are appropriated on a continuing basis
18 to the department, as necessary, for the purpose of administering the program.

19 **SECTION 2. REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.** During the 2005-06 interim, the
20 commissioner of commerce shall report to the legislative council on the status of the program
21 through which the division of economic development and finance provides services to local
22 economic developers under section 1 of this Act. The report must include information regarding
23 what services have been provided under the program to assist local economic developers, to

- 1 whom the services were provided, whether the program should continue, and whether there are
- 2 changes that could be made to better assist local economic developers.