

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

SENATE BILL NO. 2155
(Senators Heitkamp, Fischer, G. Lee)
(Representatives Belter, Delmore, Hawken)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 61-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to findings and declaration of policy of the legislative assembly concerning the use of ground water for irrigation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 61-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Findings and declaration of policy - Use of ground water for irrigation. The legislative assembly finds that the use of ground water for irrigation purposes is vitally important to the economic future of this state. The reliance on processing plants for the consistent quality resulting from irrigation is an important factor in preserving this state's reputation for quality agricultural production. Therefore, it is declared necessary and in the public interest that the state by and through the state water commission strongly discourages the conversion of agricultural water permits to any other use. Further, the legislative assembly declares that any feasible or reasonable alternative supply of water be made available for municipal or domestic use to enable the continued use of ground water for irrigated agriculture and agricultural processing.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2155.

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 85 Nays 5 Absent 4

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2005.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2005,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State