

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1399
(Representatives Onstad, Froelich, Vig)
(Senators Heckaman, Marcellais, Warner)

AN ACT relating to the preservation of American Indian languages; to provide a legislative council report; to provide an appropriation; and to provide a continuing appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. American Indian language preservation committee - Membership - Meetings.

1. The American Indian language preservation committee consists of:
 - a. The executive director of the Indian affairs commission, who shall serve as the chairman;
 - b. The superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee;
 - c. An individual employed as a faculty member at a tribal college, appointed by the governor;
 - d. The director of the state historical society;
 - e. The chairman of the North Dakota humanities council;
 - f. The chairman of the university of North Dakota department of Indian studies or the chairman's designee; and
 - g. One individual with experience in the development of curriculum pertaining to and the teaching of American Indian languages at the elementary or high school levels, appointed by the governor.
2. The committee shall meet at least quarterly, at the call of the chairman.

SECTION 2. Duties. The committee shall:

1. Develop a process for the orderly preservation of American Indian languages spoken by the members of tribes located in this state, including:
 - a. The creation or acquisition of audio recordings, picture dictionaries, and pronunciation guides;
 - b. The translation of existing materials; and
 - c. The acquisition, development, and dissemination of instructional materials for elementary and high school students, individuals enrolled in institutions of higher education, and other adults;
2. Pursue working relationships aimed at American Indian language preservation with public and private sector entities, including institutions of higher education, in this state and in other states and provinces; and
3. Seek the active participation of American Indians residing in this state on an individual and a tribal basis.

SECTION 3. Powers - Continuing appropriation.

1. The committee may:
 - a. Accept gifts, grants, and donations of money, property, and services to carry out this Act;
 - b. Expend moneys received under this section to carry out this Act; and
 - c. Contract with any person for any purpose related to this Act.
2. Any moneys received by the committee under this section are appropriated to the committee on a continuing basis.

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys from the federal fiscal stabilization - other government services funds made available to the governor under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$18,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the Indian affairs commission for the purpose of providing matching funds to the American Indian language preservation committee, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011. Each dollar provided to the committee under this section is contingent upon the committee demonstrating that it has matched each \$1 to be provided under this section with \$3, or the equivalent thereof in-kind, from nonstate sources for the purposes set forth in this Act.

SECTION 5. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REPORT. Before September 2010, the chairman of the American Indian language preservation committee shall provide a report to the legislative council regarding the work of the committee, together with any recommendations for ongoing preservation efforts.