

SENATE BILL NO.

Introduced by

Senator Bakke

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 54-34.3-10 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the commission on the status of women; to provide an appropriation; and to provide
3 for transition.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-34.3-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **54-34.3-10. Commission on the status of women - Appointment - Expenses -**
8 **Duties.** ~~There is established a~~

- 9 1. The commission on the status of women. ~~This commission consists of five is~~
10 composed of eight members:
11 a. Four female members appointed by the governor of which at least one
12 member must represent a rural area of the state, at least one member must
13 represent an urban area of the state, and at least one member must be an
14 enrolled member of a federally recognized North Dakota Indian tribe;
15 b. Two female members of the house of representatives, one of whom must be
16 selected by the leader representing the majority faction of the house of
17 representatives and one of whom must be selected by the leader representing
18 the minority faction of the house of representatives; and
19 c. Two female members of the senate, one of whom must be selected by the
20 leader representing the majority faction of the senate and one of whom must
21 be selected by the leader representing the minority faction of the senate.
22 2. The governor shall appoint each member for a term of office is four years,
23 staggered so that the term of at least one member expires July first of each year
24 expiring as of August first with no more than two terms expiring in any one year.

1 Of the first members appointed, two members must be appointed for terms of one
2 year; two members must be appointed for terms of two years; two members must
3 be appointed for terms of three years; and two members must be appointed for
4 terms of four years. A vacancy occurring other than by reason of the expiration of
5 a term must be filled in the same manner as original appointments, except that the
6 appointment may be made for only the remainder of the unexpired term. The
7 members are entitled to be paid for mileage and actual expenses incurred in
8 attending meetings and in performance of their official duties in amounts provided
9 by law for other state officers and employees.

10 3. The member appointed by the leader representing the majority faction of the
11 senate shall serve as chairman of the commission. The member appointed by the
12 leader representing the minority faction of the house of representatives shall serve
13 as vice chairman of the commission. The department of commerce shall provide
14 staff services for the commission. The commission shall meet at least four times
15 per year and any additional meetings as the chairman determines necessary.

16 4. This commission shall ~~coordinate~~:

17 a. Coordinate activities and serve as ~~a clearinghouse~~ and an advisory group to
18 the ~~division for information~~ governor and the legislative assembly on issues
19 relating to ~~economic~~ the well-being of the women of the state. The issues to
20 be addressed by the commission must include:

21 (1) Economic development programs that focus on career development for
22 women. ~~This commission shall prepare for and perform followup duties~~
23 ~~in connection with state, regional, and national conferences, encourage~~
24 ~~interest, participation, and cooperation with state departments,~~
25 ~~agencies, and other organizations in developing needed services,~~
26 ~~facilities, and opportunities, and provide consultant help to local~~
27 ~~organizations created for the purpose of coordinating activities for the~~
28 ~~economic and career development of women.;~~

29 (2) Domestic violence issues and recovery services for women and
30 children;

31 (3) Child care issues; and

- 1 (4) Family planning services and support services for pregnant women.
2 b. Explore state, regional, and national conferences that would provide
3 information of interest for women of the state.
4 c. Encourage interest, participation, and cooperation with state departments,
5 agencies, and other organizations in developing needed services, facilities,
6 and opportunities for the women of the state.
7 d. Provide consultant help to local women's organizations created for the
8 purpose of coordinating activities for the women of the state.
9 e. Prepare and present a report to the legislative council by June first of each
10 even-numbered year on the activities of the commission and any
11 recommendations for legislation the commission may have that would support
12 and assist women's issues in the state.
13 5. The commission shall establish a grant program to provide financial assistance to
14 women's organizations for conducting conferences and workshops on issues
15 affecting women of the state. Upon reviewing applications from women's
16 organizations, the commission may award grants to qualifying women's
17 organizations in an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars per organization. A
18 qualifying women's organization may not receive more than one grant per
19 biennium.

20 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
21 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$100,000, or so much
22 of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of
23 establishing a grant program administered by the commission on the status of women under
24 section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.

25 **SECTION 3. TRANSITION.** Notwithstanding the length of term to which a member of
26 the commission on July 30, 2009, was appointed, the term of each member of the commission
27 on the status of women is deemed to be expired as of August 1, 2009. Members of the
28 commission who meet the qualifications set forth in section 1 of this Act may be appointed to
29 the commission for terms commencing after July 31, 2009.