

HOUSE BILL NO.

Introduced by

Representative Onstad

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to a department of commerce rural cultural center grant program; and to
3 provide an appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Rural cultural center grants.**

- 8 1. The department shall implement and administer a rural cultural center grant
9 program. The department shall establish a board to award grants under this
10 section. The board membership must include a representative of the state
11 historical society of North Dakota, a representative of the division of tourism, and a
12 representative of the division of community services.
- 13 2. An eligible applicant must submit to the department an application that establishes:
- 14 a. The applicant is an "economically viable small community" as defined under
15 section 57-38-01.27;
- 16 b. A plan for establishment of or revision of a rural cultural center in the
17 community which plan must include:
- 18 (1) A sustainable business plan that addresses future maintenance of the
19 rural cultural center; and
- 20 (2) Information establishing the rural cultural center furthers historic
21 preservation in the community and that the rural cultural center is a
22 public benefit to the community;
- 23 c. Detailed documentation of the availability of one dollar of nonstate matching
24 funds for each dollar of state funds awarded under this section; and

- 1 d. The applicant meets any additional requirements established by the
2 department.
- 3 3. The matching funds required under this section may include cash, in-kind assets,
4 or a combination of both. The maximum grant award under this section is seven
5 hundred fifty thousand dollars. A grant under this section is not a business
6 incentive under chapter 54-60.1.

7 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the
8 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$3,000,000, or so
9 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of
10 providing rural cultural center grants under section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning
11 July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.