

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

SENATE BILL NO. 2248
(Senators Klein, Miller, Taylor)
(Representatives Brandenburg, D. Johnson, Mueller)

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 4-35-05, 4-35-08, 4-35-09, 4-35-09.1, 4-35-12, 4-35-14, 4-35-15, 4-35-16, 4-35-18, 4-35-19, 4-35-20, 4-35-22, 4-35-23, and 4-35-24 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to pesticides; to repeal sections 4-35-17 and 4-35-29 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to license plates for vehicles used in the application of certain pesticides and priority liability; and to provide a penalty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-05. Definitions. As used in this chapter:

1. "Animal" means all vertebrate and invertebrate species, including humans and other mammals, birds, fish, and shellfish.
2. ~~"Antidote" means a practical treatment in case of poisoning and includes first aid treatment.~~
3. "Applicator" means any person who applies a pesticide to land.
4. ~~"Beneficial insects" means those insects that, during their life cycle, are effective pollinators of plants, are parasites, or predators of pests.~~
5. 3. "Certified applicator" means any individual who is certified under this chapter ~~as authorized to purchase or use or supervise the use of any pesticide that is classified for a~~ restricted use pesticide.
6. 4. "Commercial applicator" means a person who by contract or for hire engages in the business of applying pesticides for compensation ~~to the land of another by aerial, ground, hand, or any other equipment. The term "commercial applicator" does not include a person using a pesticide for a private agricultural purpose unless that person is being compensated for the pesticide application.~~
7. ~~"Dealer" means any person who sells a pesticide to an end user.~~
8. 5. "Defoliant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to cause the leaves or foliage to drop from a plant, with or without causing abscission.
9. 6. "Desiccant" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to artificially accelerate the drying of plant tissue.
10. 7. "Device" means any instrument or contrivance, other than a firearm, which is intended for trapping, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest or any other form of plant or animal life, other than human and other than bacteria, virus, or other micro-organism on or in living humans or other living animals, but not including equipment used for the application of pesticides when sold separately therefrom.
11. 8. "Distribute" means to offer for sale, hold for sale, sell, barter, ship, deliver, or supply pesticides in this state.

42. 9. "Environment" includes water, air, land, and all plants and humans and other animals living therein, and the interrelationships which exist among these.
43. 10. "Equipment" means any type of ground, water, or aerial equipment or contrivance using motorized, mechanical, or pressurized power and used to apply any pesticide on land and anything that may be growing, habitating, or stored on or in such land. The term does not include any pressurized hand-sized household apparatus used to apply any pesticide, or any equipment or contrivance of which the person who is applying the pesticide is the source of power or energy in making such pesticide application.
44. 11. "Fungus" means any non-chlorophyll-bearing thallophytes, i.e., any non-chlorophyll-bearing plant of a lower order than mosses and liverworts as, for example, rust, smut, mildew, mold, yeast, and bacteria, except those on or in living humans or other living animals, and except those on or in processed food, beverages, or pharmaceuticals.
45. 12. "Insect" means any of the numerous small invertebrate animals generally having the body more or less obviously segmented, for the most part belonging to the class of insecta, comprising six-legged, usually winged forms, and to other allied classes of arthropods whose members are wingless and usually have more than six legs.
46. 13. "Label" means the written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to, the pesticide or device or any of its containers or wrappers.
47. 14. "Labeling" means the label and all other written, printed, or graphic matter:
- a. Accompanying the pesticide or device; and
 - b. To which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying or referring to the pesticide, except when accurate nonmisleading references are made to current official publications of the board; the United States environmental protection agency; the United States departments of agriculture and interior; the United States department of health and human services; state agricultural colleges; and other similar federal or state institutions or agencies authorized by law to conduct research in the field of pesticides.
48. 15. "Land" means all land and water areas, including airspace, and all plants, animals, structures, buildings, contrivances, and machinery, appurtenant thereto or situated thereon, fixed or mobile, including any used for transportation.
49. ~~"Mixture" means a diluted pesticide combination.~~
20. 16. "Nematode" means invertebrate animals of the phylum nemathelminthes, and class nematoda, i.e., unsegmented round worms with elongated, fusiform, or saclike bodies covered with cuticle, and inhabiting soil, water, plants, or plant parts, may also be called nemas or eelworms.
21. ~~"Person" means any individual, partnership, association, fiduciary, corporation, limited liability company, or any organized group of persons, whether or not incorporated.~~
22. 17. "Pest" means:
- a. ~~Any~~ any insect, ~~snail, slug,~~ rodent, nematode, fungus, or weed; or
 - b. ~~Any~~ any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life ~~or virus, viruses,~~ bacteria, or other micro-organism, except viruses, bacteria, or other micro-organisms on or in living humans or other living animals ~~which are annoying or otherwise injurious or harmful to agriculture, health, and the environment.~~
23. 18. "Pesticide" means:

- a. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest; and
 - b. Any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.
24. 19. "Pesticide dealer" means any person ~~who distributes restricted use~~, other than a pesticide wholesaler, distributing pesticides.
25. 20. "Plant regulator" means any substance or mixture of substances intended, through physiological action, to accelerate or retard the rate of growth or rate of maturation, or to otherwise alter the behavior of plants or the produce thereof, but does not include substances to the extent that they are intended as plant nutrients, trace elements, nutritional chemicals, plant inoculants, and soil amendments.
26. 21. "Private applicator" means an individual who is required to be a certified applicator ~~who uses or supervises the use of any pesticide that is classified for~~ to buy or use a restricted use, to produce any agricultural commodity pesticide on property owned or rented by the applicator or the applicator's employer or, if applied without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities, on the property of another person.
27. ~~"Protect health and the environment" means protection against any unreasonable adverse effects on public health and the environment.~~
28. 22. "Public applicator" means an applicator who applies pesticides, other than ready to use pesticides, as an employee of ~~a state or federal~~:
- a. A governmental agency, municipal corporation, or public utility; or
 - b. A hospital, privately owned golf course, nursery, or greenhouse; ~~or other governmental agency. Persons using only ready to use pesticides are exempt from this requirement.~~
29. 23. "Ready-to-use pesticide" means a pesticide ~~that~~ other than a restricted use pesticide which is applied directly from its original container consistent with label directions, ~~such as an~~ and includes aerosol spray can, a cans, ready-to-use spray container containers, bait packs, or and other types of containers that do not require mixing or loading before application.
30. 24. "Restricted use pesticide" means any pesticide formulation ~~which that~~ is classified for as restricted use by the United States environmental protection agency. ~~The term also includes a pesticide formulation classified for restricted use by or~~ the agriculture commissioner under section 19-18-05.
31. 25. "Rinsate" means a diluted mixture of pesticide obtained from triple rinsing or pressure rinsing pesticide containers or from rinsing the inside and outside of spray equipment.
32. ~~"Snail" or "slug" includes every harmful mollusk.~~
33. 26. "Tank mix" means any pesticidal formulation used alone or in combination with another pesticide and mixed with a liquid carrier prior to application.
34. 27. "Unreasonable adverse effects on the environment" means any unreasonable risk to humans or the environment, taking into account the economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits of the use of any pesticide.
35. 28. "Weed" means any plant which grows where not wanted.

- ~~36.~~ 29. "Wildlife" means all living things that are neither human, domesticated, nor, as defined in this chapter, pests, including mammals, birds, and aquatic life.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-08. Classification of commercial certificates. The board may classify commercial certificates to be issued under this chapter. The classifications may include pest control operators, wood treaters, ornamental or agricultural pesticide applicators, or right-of-way pesticide applicators. Separate classifications may be specified as to ground, aerial, or manual methods used by any applicator to apply pesticides or to the use of pesticides to control insects and plant diseases, rodents, or weeds. Each classification of certification may be subject to separate testing procedures and training requirements; provided that a person may be required to pay an additional fee if the person desires to be certified in one or more of the classifications provided for by the board under this section.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-09. Commercial and public applicator's certification.

1. A commercial or public applicator may not purchase, use, or supervise the use of a pesticide without first complying with the certification standards and requirements of this chapter, or other restrictions as may be determined by the board.
2. An individual may be certified as a commercial or public applicator within a classification if the individual successfully completes an examination for the classification as prescribed by the board and administered by the North Dakota state university extension service or the service's designee. An application for certification must be on a form prescribed by the board and accompanied by a reasonable examination fee set by the board.
3. If the North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, finds the applicant qualified to apply pesticides in the classifications for which the applicant has applied, after examination as the board requires, and the applicant meets all other requirements of this chapter, the North Dakota state university extension service shall issue a commercial or a public applicator's certificate limited to the classifications in which the applicant is qualified.
4. If certification is not to be issued as applied for, the North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, shall inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for not issuing the certification. ~~Individuals certified pursuant to this section are deemed certified commercial or public applicators for the use of pesticides.~~

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-09.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-09.1. Proof of financial responsibility - Exceptions.

1. A commercial ~~pesticide~~ applicator certificate may not be issued ~~or renewed~~ unless the applicant furnishes proof of financial responsibility ~~as provided in this section. A commercial pesticide applicator shall furnish proof of financial responsibility on demand to the agriculture commissioner as provided in this section. Minimum financial.~~ Financial responsibility must be maintained in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, and may be demonstrated by a notarized letter from an officer of a financial institution or from a certified public accountant attesting to the existence of net assets equal to at least one hundred thousand dollars, a performance bond, or a general liability insurance policy. The performance bond or insurance policy must contain a provision requiring the issuing company to notify the agriculture commissioner at least ten days before the effective date of cancellation, termination, or other modification of the bond or insurance policy. When requested by the agriculture commissioner, a commercial applicator immediately shall

furnish proof of compliance with this section. If the applicator is unable to furnish the required proof, the commissioner may stop a pesticide application and not allow resumption until the applicator furnishes proof of compliance. The agriculture commissioner shall immediately suspend the certification of a ~~person~~ commercial applicator who fails to maintain the ~~minimum~~ financial responsibility standards of this section. If there is any recovery against the ~~certificate holder~~ commercial applicator, the ~~holder~~ applicator shall demonstrate continued compliance with the ~~minimum standards~~ requirements of this section. ~~An employee of a commercial pesticide application business is not required to meet these standards separately if the business documents compliance with the minimum financial responsibility standards of this section.~~ An application for reinstatement of a ~~suspended~~ suspended certificate under this section must be accompanied by proof of ~~satisfaction of~~ that any judgment previously rendered against the applicant has been satisfied.

2. This section does not apply to:
 - a. A rancher who ~~is required to~~ must obtain a commercial ~~pesticide~~ applicator certificate for controlling noxious weeds on the leased federal acreage as a condition of a federal grasslands lease.
 - b. A grazing association and its members if either the association or any member is ~~required to~~ must obtain a commercial ~~pesticide~~ applicator certificate for controlling noxious weeds on the leased federal acreage as a condition of a federal grasslands lease.
 - c. A person ~~required to~~ who must be certified in the right-of-way category.
 - d. ~~An applicator who holds a~~ A commercial ~~pesticide~~ applicator who controls noxious weeds on grassland, land producing tame hay, or other lands not devoted to the production of an annual crop.
 - e. An employee of a commercial applicator if the commercial applicator complies with this section.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-12. Pesticide dealer certification - Employees - Requirements for purchase.

1. It is unlawful for ~~any person~~ a pesticide dealer to distribute ~~or sell~~ restricted use pesticides or ~~assume to~~ act as a restricted use pesticide dealer, ~~at any time,~~ without first having obtained certification from the North Dakota state university extension service, or the service's designee ~~in the county in which the applicant operates the applicant's principal place of business.~~ A certified person is required ~~at each~~ to be at any location or outlet ~~located within this state from which restricted use pesticides are distributed.~~ Any manufacturer, ~~registrant,~~ or distributor that has no pesticide dealer outlet within this state and which distributes such pesticides directly into this state shall obtain a pesticide dealer certificate for its principal out-of-state location or outlet.
2. Application for a certificate must be accompanied by an examination fee set by the board and must be on a form prescribed by the board. ~~The board shall adopt rules governing service of process on members of corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships, or associations, and governing the listing of membership in such organizations.~~ The application must also state the address of each outlet, the principal business address of the applicant, the name of a person domiciled in this state authorized to receive and accept service of summons of legal notices of all kinds for the applicant, and any other necessary information prescribed by the board.

3. The board shall require each pesticide dealer to demonstrate to the North Dakota state university extension service or the service's designee knowledge of pesticide laws and regulations; pesticide hazards to humans, animals, and the environment; and the safe distribution, disposal, and use and application of pesticides by satisfactorily passing an examination or meeting other requirements within each classification for which certification is sought as prescribed by the board.
4. Each ~~restricted-use~~ pesticide dealer is responsible for the acts of each person employed by the dealer in the solicitation and sale of restricted use pesticides and all claims and recommendations for use of such pesticides. The dealer's certification is subject to ~~denial~~, suspension, or revocation, after a hearing, for any violation of this chapter, whether committed by the dealer, or by the dealer's officer, agent, or employee.
5. A certificate issued under this section expires as of the first day of April following two years from the date of issuance. A certificate is renewable every three years on April first. A certificate may be renewed upon completion of a seminar approved by the board or upon successfully completing an examination required by the board, or both, if required by the board. The board may require any person holding a current valid certificate to take an examination within the three-year period if the board determines additional knowledge related to pesticides makes an additional examination necessary or that a new evaluation is necessary to assure a continuing level of competence and ability to distribute pesticides safely and properly.
6. Restricted use pesticides may be sold only to:
 - a. Persons certified as applicators by this state; and
 - b. Persons certified to use restricted use pesticides by another state, provided the pesticide control board determines that the certifying state's requirements are substantially similar to those of this state and further provided that the person does not use the restricted use pesticide in this state.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-14. Private applicators - Certification.

1. ~~a. No person~~ An individual who would be a private applicator, if certified, may ~~not buy, use, or supervise the use of~~ any restricted use pesticide ~~classified for restricted use unless such person the individual~~ first complies with the certification requirements ~~as determined established~~ by the board ~~as necessary to prevent unreasonable adverse effects on the environment, including injury to the applicator or other persons, for that specific pesticide use.~~
- b. An individual who would be a private applicator, if certified, may not use any restricted use pesticide unless the individual:
 - (1) Complies with the certification requirements established by the board; or
 - (2) Is under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.
2. Certification standards to determine the individual's competency with respect to the use and handling of the pesticide or class of pesticides the private applicator is to be certified to use must be determined by the board. In determining these standards, the board shall take into consideration similar standards of the environmental protection agency.
3. ~~The board shall determine by rule methods to evaluate the competence of private applicators and provisions for reevaluation as advances in technology warrant, or as necessary to assure a continuing level of competence and ability to use pesticides safely~~

~~and properly.~~ The North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, ~~in the county of the residence of the applicant~~ shall issue a certificate to any private applicator who has qualified as prescribed by the board. ~~However, the~~ The North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, may require any applicant required to be certified under this chapter section to pay a reasonable charge fee, not greater than the cost to the North Dakota state university extension service, for materials provided to the applicant for training and education.

SECTION 7. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-15. Unlawful acts - Grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of a certification.

~~The commissioner, after providing an opportunity for a hearing, may deny, suspend, revoke, or modify any provision of any certification issued under this chapter, if the commissioner finds that the applicant or the holder of the certification has committed any act listed in this section. Each of the following acts is a violation of this chapter, whether committed by an applicant, by the holder of the certification, or by any other person applying or using pesticides, if the~~ It is a violation of this chapter for any person to:

1. ~~Made~~ Make false or fraudulent claims through any media, misrepresenting the effect of materials or methods to be utilized, or advertised a pesticide without reference to its classification.
2. ~~Made~~ Make a pesticide recommendation, application, or use inconsistent with the labeling or other restrictions prescribed by the board.
3. ~~Applied~~ Apply materials known by that person to be ineffective or improper.
4. ~~Operated~~ Operate faulty or unsafe equipment.
5. ~~Operated~~ Operate in a faulty, careless, or negligent manner.
6. ~~Neglected~~ Neglect, or, after notice, ~~refused~~ refuse to comply with this chapter, the rules adopted to implement this chapter, or any lawful order of the commissioner.
7. ~~Refused or neglected~~ Refuse or neglect to keep and maintain the records required by this chapter or to make reports when and as required.
8. ~~Made~~ Make false or fraudulent records, invoices, or reports.
9. ~~Operated unlicensed equipment in violation of section 4-35-17.~~ Apply pesticide to the property of another, without the permission of the owner or lessee, unless the application is made under the direction of a governmental entity.
10. ~~Used~~ Use fraud or misrepresentation in making an application for, or for renewal of, certification.
11. ~~Refused or neglected~~ Refuse or neglect to comply with any limitations or restrictions on or in a duly issued certification.
12. ~~Aided or abetted a certified or an uncertified~~ Aid or abet a person to evade the provisions of this chapter, conspired conspire with such a certified or an uncertified a person to evade the provisions of this chapter, or allowed allow the person's certification to be used by another person.
13. Knowingly ~~made~~ make false statements during or after an inspection or an investigation.
14. ~~Impersonated~~ Impersonate a federal, state, county, or city inspector or official.

15. ~~Distributed~~ Distribute any restricted use pesticide to any person who is ~~required by law or rule to be certified to use or purchase the restricted use pesticide unless the person or agent to whom distribution is made is~~ not properly certified to use or purchase ~~that kind of restricted use~~ the pesticide.
16. ~~Bought, used, or supervised~~ Buy, use, or supervise the use of any pesticide without first complying with the certification requirements of this chapter, unless otherwise exempted.
17. ~~Applied~~ Apply any ~~economic poison~~ pesticide that is not registered pursuant to chapter 19-18.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-16. ~~Commercial and public applicators to keep records - Duration~~ Records - Retention - Submission to commissioner. The board shall require ~~the holders of certificates to~~ pesticide dealers, commercial applicators, and public applicators maintain records of sales and purchases of restricted use and special exemption pesticides ~~and~~. The board shall require commercial applicators and public applicators to maintain records of all applications of pesticides ~~by commercial or public applicators~~. The board may also require restricted use pesticide application records of private applicators. ~~Such relevant information as the board may deem necessary may be specified by rule.~~ The records must be kept for a period of three years from the date of the application ~~or, sale, or purchase of the pesticide to which the records refer.~~ Upon request, these records or pertinent parts thereof, must be submitted to the commissioner.

SECTION 9. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-18. Reciprocal agreement. The North Dakota state university extension service, or its designee, may issue a certification on a reciprocal basis, without examination, to a nonresident who is certified to buy, distribute, or use restricted use pesticides under a plan substantially similar to this chapter and after the applicant has paid a fee, set by the board, not greater than the fee or charge authorized under section 4-35-09, 4-35-12, or 4-35-14 if the applicant would have taken the appropriate examination. Such a certification may be suspended or revoked in the same manner and on the same grounds as certifications pursuant to this chapter, and must be suspended or revoked if the nonresident's home state certification is suspended or revoked.

SECTION 10. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-19. Certification requirements - Exemptions.

1. The certification requirements of this chapter do not apply to ~~a competent person~~ an individual applying ~~general~~ non-restricted use pesticides under the direct supervision of a commercial applicator, unless the pesticide label requires that a certified applicator personally apply the pesticide. A pesticide is ~~deemed to be~~ applied under the direct supervision of a commercial applicator if the pesticide is applied by ~~a competent person~~ an individual acting under the instruction and control of a certified applicator who is physically available if needed. The certified applicator need not be present when the pesticide is applied. Direct supervision with respect to applications using aircraft requires that the pilot of the aircraft be appropriately certified. The certification requirements of this chapter do not apply to a competent person applying restricted use pesticides under the direct supervision of a private applicator, unless the pesticide label requires that a certified applicator personally apply the particular pesticide. A pesticide is deemed to be applied under the direct supervision of a private applicator if it is applied by a competent person acting under the instruction and control of a private applicator who is available if and when needed, even though the private applicator is not physically present at the time and place that the pesticide is applied.

2. The certification requirements of this chapter do not apply to any person conducting laboratory-type research using restricted use pesticides or to a doctor of medicine or a doctor of veterinary medicine applying a pesticide as a drug or as medication during the course of normal practice.

SECTION 11. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-20 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-20. Discarding and storing of pesticides, pesticide containers, and pesticide rinsate. No person may discard, store, display, or permit the disposal of surplus pesticides, empty pesticide containers and devices, or pesticide rinsate in such a manner as to endanger the environment or to endanger food, feed, or any other products that may be stored, displayed, or distributed with such pesticides. The board shall promulgate regulations governing the discarding, storage, display, or disposal of any pesticide, pesticide rinsate, pesticide containers, or devices.

SECTION 12. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-22 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-22. Subpoenas. The commissioner may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses or production of books, documents, and records pertaining to pesticide applications and, sales, and purchases in the state in any hearing ~~affecting the authority or privilege granted by a certification issued under the provisions of~~ to enforce this chapter.

SECTION 13. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-23 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-23. Penalties.

1. Any ~~registrant; applicator, person~~ other than a private applicator; ~~wholesale dealer; retailer; or other distributor,~~ who knowingly violates ~~any provision of this chapter shall be~~ is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
2. Any private applicator ~~or other person not included in subsection 4~~ who knowingly violates ~~any provision of this chapter shall be~~ is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
3. When construing and enforcing the provisions of this chapter, the act, omission, or failure of any officer, agent, or other person acting for or employed by any person must in every case be also deemed to be the act, omission, or failure of such person as well as that of the person employed.
4. A person who violates ~~a provision of~~ this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars for each violation. The civil penalty may be imposed by a court in a civil proceeding or by the agriculture commissioner through an adjudicative proceeding pursuant to chapter 28-32. The assessment of a civil penalty does not preclude the imposition of other sanctions authorized by law, this chapter, or rules adopted under this chapter.
5. After providing an opportunity for a hearing, the commissioner may deny, suspend, revoke, or modify the provision of any certification issued under this chapter, if the commissioner determines that the applicant for certification or the holder of a certificate has violated this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter.

SECTION 14. AMENDMENT. Section 4-35-24 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

4-35-24. Enforcement.

1. The commissioner ~~is charged with the duty of enforcing~~ shall enforce the requirements of this chapter and any rules ~~or regulations issued hereunder~~ adopted under this chapter.

2. The commissioner may bring an action to enjoin the violation or threatened violation of ~~any provision of this chapter, or any rule or regulation made pursuant to~~ adopted under this chapter, in the district court of the county in which such violation occurs or is about to occur.
3. ~~In the event~~ If any person violates ~~any provision of this chapter,~~ the commissioner may issue an order requiring ~~such the~~ person to cease and desist from the unlawful activity. ~~In the event~~ If the violator fails to obey, the commissioner will cause the appropriate criminal complaint to be filed.
4. ~~For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter, the~~ The commissioner may enter upon any public or private premises at reasonable times, in order to:
 - a. ~~Have access for the purpose of inspecting~~ Inspect any equipment subject to this chapter and the premises on which ~~such the~~ equipment is stored or used.
 - b. Inspect or sample lands actually or reported to be exposed to pesticides.
 - c. Inspect storage or disposal areas.
 - d. Inspect or investigate complaints of injury to humans or land.
 - e. Draw samples of a reasonable amount of tank mix pesticides and tank mixes without compensation to the ~~applicator~~ owner for values less than three dollars. ~~If the value of the sample is over three dollars, the applicator has the option of being given a receipt to be paid at a later date, or of not being reimbursed.~~
 - f. Observe the use and application of a pesticide.
 - g. ~~Have access for the purpose of inspecting~~ Inspect any ~~premises or other place where pesticides or devices are stored or held for distribution, sale, or for use or for the purpose of inspecting and obtaining,~~ and obtain samples of any pesticides packaged, labeled, and released for shipment and samples of any containers or labeling for ~~such the~~ pesticides.
5.
 - a. The commissioner ~~shall,~~ at any reasonable time, ~~have~~ has access to ~~the~~ records pertaining to the pesticide application and, sales of, purchases, and repackaging by any person. The commissioner may copy or make copies of ~~such the~~ records for the purpose of ~~carrying out the provisions of this chapter. Unless required for the enforcement of this chapter, such information is~~ These records are confidential. However, the commissioner may use these records in any way to enforce this chapter. Any record that the commissioner uses as an exhibit in an enforcement action is no longer a confidential record.
 - b. If an individual alleges exposure to pesticides and if the individual's medical provider requests that the commissioner reveal the name of the pesticide, the commissioner may reveal the name of the pesticide to the individual making the request, together with the registration number assigned by the United States environmental protection agency. The commissioner may require that a request under this section be made in writing.
6. ~~When~~ If access is refused or ~~in situations in which if~~ the commissioner ~~feels~~ determines ~~that~~ critical enforcement documentation may be lost, the commissioner ~~or the commissioner's designated agent for the purposes set forth in this chapter,~~ may apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for a search warrant authorizing access to ~~such~~ land or records ~~for said purposes.~~ The court may, upon ~~such application and upon~~ compliance with the provisions of chapter 29-29.1, issue the search warrant for the purposes requested.

7. ~~If a civil penalty pursuant to section 4-35-23 is imposed by the agriculture commissioner through an administrative hearing and the civil penalty is not paid, the commissioner may collect the civil penalty by a civil proceeding in any appropriate court. Additionally, the~~ The commissioner may suspend or revoke a certification issued pursuant to this chapter for failure to pay a civil penalty within thirty days after a final determination is made that the civil penalty is owed.

SECTION 15. REPEAL. Sections 4-35-17 and 4-35-29 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

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 Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2248.

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 0

House Vote: Yeas 88 Nays 3 Absent 3

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2009.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2009.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2009,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State