

HOUSE BILL NO. 1352

Introduced by

Representatives Porter, Brandenburg, S. Kelsh

Senators Flakoll, Triplett, Wardner

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new chapter to title 17 of the North Dakota Century
2 code, relating to the state energy policy.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new chapter to title 17 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
5 enacted as follows:

6 **State energy policy.**

7 **1. The legislative assembly declares that:**

- 8 **a. This state is endowed with abundant energy resources such as the largest**
9 **deposit of lignite coal in the world, is one of the top oil producing states in the**
10 **nation, has great wind energy potential, and is the top producer of many**
11 **agricultural commodities with renewable energy conversion potential;**
12 **b. This state is home to a university system which houses world-class energy**
13 **research and training programs;**
14 **c. The energy industry contributes to economic well-being by creating job**
15 **opportunities and creating new wealth in the economy; and**
16 **d. This state has a strong tradition of environmental stewardship.**

17 **2. The legislative assembly declares it is the policy of this state to:**

- 18 **a. Develop a balanced approach to encourage growth and stimulate the**
19 **development of renewable and traditional fossil-based energy within the state**
20 **with the goal of providing secure, diverse, sustainable, and competitive**
21 **energy supplies that may be produced and secured within the state to assist**
22 **the nation in reducing its dependence on foreign energy sources;**
23 **b. Promote the research, development, and demonstration of new technologies;**
24 **enhance environmental stewardship; provide innovative opportunities; and**

- 1 create additional employment and wealth that contribute to economic
2 development and decrease dependence on foreign energy supplies;
3 c. Grow the fossil fuel and renewable energy industries within this state to
4 encourage the state's competitiveness for both the domestic and export
5 markets;
6 d. Educate the citizens of this state on the impact of the state's energy industry;
7 e. Not support state energy mandates;
8 f. Maintain a fair regulatory environment for energy development that
9 encourages companies to transform the state's extensive natural resources
10 into energy in a way that protects the state's scenic beauty and the rights of
11 property owners;
12 g. Have the transmission authority facilitate and coordinate new transmission
13 initiatives to benefit this state;
14 h. Pursue lignite development for electricity generation, gasification, liquefaction,
15 and associated byproducts;
16 i. Maintain a balanced package of incentives and policies to remain a
17 competitive and attractive location for biofuels production;
18 j. Support policies aimed at improving the long-term economic feasibility of
19 biomass production;
20 k. Create incentives and education programs that promote energy efficiency;
21 l. Support the growth of refining through industrial commission programs and a
22 supportive tax and regulatory structure;
23 m. Support and assist in pipeline infrastructure development through the pipeline
24 authority;
25 n. Encourage oil and gas exploration through a supportive regulatory
26 environment and research that maximizes the extraction of the state's oil
27 resources;
28 o. Support energy education programs that help consumers make informed
29 purchase and consumption decisions;

- 1 p. Expand the state's workforce recruitment and marketing strategy to include
- 2 other states and international talent pools to serve the extraordinary needs of
- 3 the state's energy industry;
- 4 q. Coordinate a comprehensive resource for job seekers that helps them identify
- 5 opportunities that match their skills and directs them to resources regarding
- 6 relocation issues such as housing, community information, and job training
- 7 programs;
- 8 r. Attract and train more students into energy industry and energy research jobs
- 9 by building stronger connections between industry and education and
- 10 improving awareness of energy career opportunities among teachers and
- 11 career counselors; and
- 12 s. Ensure adequate water, power, and infrastructure for energy development
- 13 and for the communities in which energy development exists.