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Sixty-third  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1420**

Introduced by

Representatives Onstad, Hunskor

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 38-08 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to enforcement of laws, rules, and regulations concerning the  
3 conservation of oil and gas; and to provide a penalty.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 38-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Enforcement of laws and rules - Conservation of oil and gas - Duty of director of oil**  
8 **and gas - Penalties.**

9 The director of the department of mineral resources shall enforce vigorously all laws, rules,  
10 and orders concerning the conservation of oil and gas under this chapter. An operator that fails  
11 to comply with any laws, rules, or orders within fifteen days of notification by the director of the  
12 department of mineral resources or fifteen days after notification of the department of mineral  
13 resources by an affected landowner is subject to a fine of one hundred dollars per day for the  
14 first seven days of the violation and five hundred dollars per day thereafter. All fines paid or  
15 collected under this chapter must be remitted to the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and  
16 site reclamation fund. The director may waive a fine if the director determines the violation is a  
17 direct result of a circumstance beyond the control of the operator.