

Introduced by

Senators Miller, Rust, Warner

Representatives Damschen, M. Nelson, Zubke

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study of oil and gas and abandoned
2 gravel pit reclamation practices.

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

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - RECLAMATION PRACTICES.**

5 During the 2015-16 interim, the legislative management shall study oil and gas and
6 abandoned gravel pit reclamation practices. The study must include the consideration of
7 feasibility and desirability of utilizing state funds for the reclamation of oil and gas
8 development-impacted areas and abandoned gravel pits, natural erosion events, and financially
9 difficult reclamation projects for the purpose of restoring land for farming, ranching, or clean
10 water initiatives. The study shall emphasize consideration of the potential economic benefit of
11 restored or repurposed land.

12 The study shall include consideration of current reclamation practices and standards for all
13 North Dakota industries; use of the North Dakota outdoor heritage fund or other funds for
14 financing; and input from departments, organizations, and associations with interest in
15 reclamation practices.

16 The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with
17 any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fifth legislative
18 assembly.