

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with Senate Amendments  
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1007**

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the department of  
2 labor and human rights; and to amend and reenact sections 14-02.4-15 and 34-14-09 of the  
3 North Dakota Century Code, relating to discriminatory practices in public services and  
4 employee claims for wages.

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

6 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds  
7 as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state  
8 treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and  
9 other income, to the department of labor and human rights for the purpose of defraying the  
10 expenses of the department of labor and human rights, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017,  
11 and ending June 30, 2019, as follows:

	<u>Base Level</u>	Adjustments or <u>Enhancements</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
14 Salaries and wages	\$2,423,746	(\$8,762)	\$2,414,984
15 Operating expenses	<u>361,327</u>	<u>(32,409)</u>	<u>328,918</u>
16 Total all funds	\$2,785,073	(\$41,171)	\$2,743,902
17 Less estimated income	<u>437,832</u>	<u>2,084</u>	<u>439,916</u>
18 Total general fund	\$2,347,241	(\$43,255)	\$2,303,986
19 Full-time equivalent positions	15.00	(1.00)	14.00

20 **SECTION 2. HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASE.** The salaries and wages line item in  
21 section 1 of this Act includes the sum of \$37,165 from the general fund for increases in  
22 employee health insurance premiums from \$1,130 to \$1,241 per month.

23 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 14-02.4-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
24 amended and reenacted as follows:

1       **14-02.4-15. Public services - Discriminatory practices.**

2       1. It is a discriminatory practice for a person engaged in the provision of public services  
3       to fail to provide to ~~a person~~an individual access to the use of and benefit thereof, or to  
4       give adverse or unequal treatment to ~~a person~~an individual in connection therewith  
5       because of the ~~person's~~individual's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age,  
6       physical or mental disability, or status with respect to marriage or public assistance.

7       2. Subsection 1 does not apply to:

8       a. An individual committed to the legal and physical custody of the department of  
9       corrections and rehabilitation; or

10       b. An individual confined in a correctional facility, as defined in section 12-44.1-01.

11       **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 34-14-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
12       amended and reenacted as follows:

13       **34-14-09. Employees' remedies - Limitation on wages collectible.**

14       1. An employee may file with the department a claim for wages due under this chapter or  
15       under chapter 34-06 ~~with the department not later than~~if the filing is made within two  
16       years from the date the wages are due and the amount of the wages claimed due is at  
17       least two hundred dollars. For purposes of this section, wages are due at each regular  
18       payday immediately following the work period during which wages were earned.  
19       ~~Whenever~~ If the department denies the claim for wages due because the amount  
20       claimed is less than two hundred dollars, the department shall inform the claimant of  
21       the opportunity for the claimant to pursue the claim in small claims court under chapter  
22       27-08.1

23       2. If the labor commissioner determines that wages have not been paid and that the  
24       unpaid wages constitute an enforceable claim, the commissioner, upon request of the  
25       employee, may take an assignment in trust for the wages or a claim for liquidated  
26       damages in amounts the commissioner deems valid and enforceable without being  
27       bound by ~~any of~~ the technical rules respecting the validity of any assignments and  
28       may bring any legal action necessary to collect the claim. With the consent of the  
29       assigning employee at the time of the assignment, the commissioner may settle and  
30       adjust the claim to the same extent as the assigning employee.

- 1           3. The limitation of action under section 34-01-13 is tolled by the filing of a claim with the  
2           commissioner until the commissioner determines the claim is not enforceable or the  
3           commissioner reassigns the claim to the employee. ~~With the consent of the assigning~~  
4           ~~employee at the time of the assignment, the commissioner may settle and adjust the~~  
5           ~~claim to the same extent as the assigning employee.~~