

Introduced by

Senators Unruh, Armstrong, Oban

Representatives D. Anderson, Kempenich, Schatz

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 04-01-31 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight program and records of program
3 participants.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 04-01-31 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **4-01-31. Pipeline restoration and reclamation oversight pilot program - Generally.**

- 8 1. The agriculture commissioner shall establish a ~~pilot~~ program ~~that shall~~to provide
9 technical assistance and support to surface owners and surface tenants on pipeline
10 restoration and followup support to surface owners and surface tenants on pipeline
11 reclamation.
- 12 2. The agriculture commissioner may contract for ombudsmen for the purposes of being
13 a resource for technical assistance and followup on pipeline issues. The ombudsmen
14 may not investigate or assist with any pipeline installed before January 1, 2006, or
15 regulated by the public service commission under title 49, and may not assist in
16 easement negotiations.
- 17 3. The ~~pilot~~ program may provide technical education, support, and outreach on
18 pipeline-related matters in coordination with other entities.
- 19 4. The agriculture commissioner may contract with local individuals, deemed trustworthy
20 by the surface owners and surface tenants, to be ombudsmen. The agriculture
21 commissioner is not subject to the provisions of chapter 54-44.4 when contracting for
22 the services of ombudsmen.
- 23 5. The names of surface owners and surface tenants who receive assistance under the
24 program are exempt records as defined under section 44-04-17.1.