

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1519**

Introduced by

Representatives Hagert, Nathe, O'Brien, Porter, Stemen

Senators Bekkedahl, Meyer, Weber

1 A BILL for an Act to provide appropriations to the department of transportation, department of  
2 health and human services, department of career and technical education, department of  
3 agriculture, and industrial commission for unmanned aircraft system grants; and to provide a  
4 report.

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

6 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**  
7 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**  
8 **MANAGEMENT.**

- 9 1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,  
10 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be  
11 necessary, to the department of transportation for the purpose of unmanned aircraft  
12 system grants to political subdivisions, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and  
13 ending June 30, 2025. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time  
14 funding item.
- 15 2. The department of transportation shall develop an application process and guidelines  
16 for the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and matching  
17 requirements. The department of transportation may require a political subdivision to  
18 provide one dollar of matching funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be  
19 eligible for a grant, a political subdivision shall certify to the department of  
20 transportation that the operation of the unmanned aircraft system is related to  
21 inspecting, operating, maintaining, or construction of critical infrastructure.
- 22 3. A political subdivision may use grant funding to purchase or lease unmanned aircraft  
23 systems, to support the operations of unmanned aircraft systems, to contract for  
24 services related to unmanned aircraft systems, or for other eligible uses related to

1           unmanned aircraft system operations as determined by the department of  
2           transportation.

3           4.    During the 2023-24 interim, the department of transportation shall provide at least  
4           one report to the legislative management regarding the grants, including a list of grant  
5           recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use of the grant funding.

6           **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**  
7           **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO**  
8           **LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.**

9           1.    There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,  
10           not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be  
11           necessary, to the department of health and human services for the purpose of  
12           unmanned aircraft system grants to emergency medical services providers, for the  
13           biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The funding provided in  
14           this section is considered a one-time funding item.

15          2.    The department of health and human services shall develop an application process  
16           and guidelines for the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and  
17           matching requirements. The department of health and human services may require an  
18           emergency medical services provider to provide one dollar of matching funds for every  
19           four dollars awarded by the state. To be eligible for a grant, an emergency medical  
20           services provider shall certify to the department of health and human services that the  
21           operation of the unmanned aircraft system is related to providing or enhancing  
22           emergency medical services in rural areas of the state.

23          3.    An emergency medical services provider may use grant funding to purchase or lease  
24           unmanned aircraft systems, to support the operations of unmanned aircraft systems,  
25           to contract for services related to unmanned aircraft systems, or for other eligible uses  
26           related to unmanned aircraft system operations as determined by the department of  
27           health and human services.

28          4.    During the 2023-24 interim, the department of health and human services shall  
29           provide at least one report to the legislative management regarding the grants,  
30           including a list of grant recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use  
31           of the grant funding.

1       **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**  
2 **DEPARTMENT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION - ONE-TIME FUNDING -**  
3 **REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.**

- 4       1.    There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,  
5           not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be  
6           necessary, to the department of career and technical education for the purpose of  
7           unmanned aircraft system grants to a workforce training center serving the northwest  
8           area of the state, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.  
9           The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.
- 10       2.    The department of career and technical education shall develop an application  
11           process and guidelines for the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant  
12           awards, and matching requirements. The department of career and technical  
13           education may require a workforce training center to provide one dollar of matching  
14           funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be eligible for a grant, a  
15           workforce training center shall certify to the department of career and technical  
16           education that the operation of the unmanned aircraft system is related to workforce or  
17           educational training with unmanned aircraft systems.
- 18       3.    A workforce training center may use grant funding to purchase or lease unmanned  
19           aircraft systems, to support the operations of unmanned aircraft systems, to contract  
20           for services related to unmanned aircraft systems, for educational or training  
21           curriculum expenses related to unmanned aircraft systems, or for other eligible uses  
22           related to unmanned aircraft system operations as determined by the department of  
23           career and technical education.
- 24       4.    During the 2023-24 interim, the department of career and technical education shall  
25           provide at least one report to the legislative management regarding the grants,  
26           including a list of grant recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use  
27           of the grant funding.

28       **SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**  
29 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**  
30 **MANAGEMENT.**

- 1        1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,  
2            not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be  
3            necessary, to the department of agriculture for the purpose of unmanned aircraft  
4            system grants to individuals and entities in the agriculture industry, for the biennium  
5            beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The funding provided in this  
6            section is considered a one-time funding item.
- 7        2. The department of agriculture shall develop an application process and guidelines for  
8            the grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and matching  
9            requirements. The department of agriculture may require an individual or entity to  
10           provide one dollar of matching funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be  
11           eligible for a grant, an individual or entity shall certify to the department of agriculture  
12           that the operation of the unmanned aircraft system is related to inspecting, operating,  
13           maintaining, or construction of agriculture property or infrastructure.
- 14       3. An individual or entity may use grant funding to purchase or lease unmanned aircraft  
15           systems, to support the operations of unmanned aircraft systems, to contract for  
16           services related to unmanned aircraft systems, or for other eligible uses related to  
17           unmanned aircraft system operations as determined by the department of agriculture.
- 18       4. During the 2023-24 interim, the department of agriculture shall provide at least  
19           one report to the legislative management regarding the grants, including a list of grant  
20           recipients, the amounts awarded, and a description of the use of the grant funding.

21        **SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND -**  
22        **INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**  
23        **MANAGEMENT.**

- 24       1. There is appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund,  
25            not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be  
26            necessary, to the industrial commission for the purpose of unmanned aircraft system  
27            grants to individuals and entities in the oil and gas industry, for the biennium beginning  
28            July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The funding provided in this section is  
29            considered a one-time funding item.
- 30       2. The industrial commission shall develop an application process and guidelines for the  
31            grants, including eligibility criteria, maximum grant awards, and matching

- 1 requirements. The industrial commission may require an individual or entity to provide  
2 one dollar of matching funds for every four dollars awarded by the state. To be eligible  
3 for a grant, an individual or entity shall certify to the industrial commission that the  
4 operation of the unmanned aircraft system is related to inspecting, operating,  
5 maintaining, or construction of oil and gas infrastructure.
- 6 3. An individual or entity may use grant funding to purchase or lease unmanned aircraft  
7 systems, to support the operations of unmanned aircraft systems, to contract for  
8 services related to unmanned aircraft systems, or for other eligible uses related to  
9 unmanned aircraft system operations as determined by the industrial commission.
- 10 4. During the 2023-24 interim, the industrial commission shall provide at least one report  
11 to the legislative management regarding the grants, including a list of grant recipients,  
12 the amounts awarded, and a description of the use of the grant funding.