

Introduced by

Representatives Rios, Longmuir, Motschenbacher, Prichard, D. Ruby, Timmons

Senators Bekkedahl, Paulson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 12.1-05 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to reimbursement for a finding of self-defense when charged with a  
3 crime of violence; and to provide for application.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 12.1-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Crime of violence - Self-defense - Reimbursement.**

- 8 1. As used in this section, "crime of violence" means a violation of state law in which an  
9 individual causes death or physical bodily injury to another individual. The term  
10 includes assault and murder.  
11 2. If an individual charged with a crime of violence is found not guilty, the court shall  
12 determine whether the individual was found not guilty due to the justification of self-  
13 defense. If the court finds the individual was found not guilty due to self-defense, the  
14 court may order the state to reimburse the defendant for all reasonable costs incurred  
15 in defense, including loss of wages and time, attorney's fees, and other expenses  
16 involved in the defense. The reimbursement is not an independent cause of action.

17 **SECTION 2. APPLICATION.** This Act applies to criminal charges filed after the effective  
18 date of this Act.