

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Senate Amendments**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1218

Introduced by

Representatives Schreiber-Beck, D. Anderson, Beltz, Brandenburg, Headland, Nelson,
Weisz

Senators Meyer, Thomas, Wanzek, Weber

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 61-02 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to a temporary moratorium on conducting an economic analysis for
3 assessment drain projects; to provide for a study by the state water commission; to provide for
4 a legislative management report; and to provide an expiration date.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 61-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **Economic analysis for assessment drain projects - Moratorium.**

9 Notwithstanding the state water commission's authority to conduct an economic analysis for
10 an assessment drain project under section 61-02-01.3, between August 1, 2025, and July 31,
11 2027, the state water commission or the department of water resources may not conduct an
12 economic analysis for an assessment drain project within the state.

13 **SECTION 2. STATE WATER COMMISSION STUDY - FORMULA FOR ECONOMIC**
14 **ANALYSIS FOR ASSESSMENT DRAIN PROJECTS - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT**

15 **REPORT.** During the 2025-26 interim, the state water commission shall study its formula for
16 conducting an economic analysis for assessment drain projects. The state water commission
17 shall provide periodic reports to the legislative management on the status of the state water
18 commission's review of the economic analysis formula. Before August 1, 2026, the state water
19 commission shall provide a final report of its findings and recommendations to the legislative
20 management, together with any legislation and appropriation requests required to implement
21 the recommendations.

- 1 **SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective through July 31, 2027,
- 2 and after that date is ineffective.