

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

SENATE BILL NO. 2228
(Senators Myrdal, Klein)
(Representatives Hanson, Monson)

AN ACT to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for a rural grocery store sustainability grant program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - RURAL GROCERY STORE SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS - ONE-TIME FUNDING. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of providing grants for the preservation of rural grocery stores and increasing the availability of food access in the state, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The department shall prioritize grant funding awarded under this section for supporting existing rural grocery stores before awarding grant funding for feasibility costs related to reopening a grocery store in a community without a grocery store. The funding may not be used for food processing or offsite preparation operations of a rural grocery store. The department of commerce shall establish guidelines for awarding grants under this section. The appropriation in this section is considered a one-time funding item.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2228.

Senate Vote: Yeas 40 Nays 6 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 75 Nays 17 Absent 2

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2025.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2025,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State