

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1218**

Introduced by

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

Senators Meyer, Thomas, Wanzek, Weber

*In place of amendment (25.0817.02002) adopted by the Senate, Engrossed House Bill  
No. 1218 is amended by amendment (25.0817.02006) as follows:*

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 amend and reenact section 61-02-01.3 of the North Dakota  
4 Century Code, relating to comprehensive water development plans; to provide for a legislative  
5 management study; and to provide an expiration date.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-02-01.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **61-02-01.3. Comprehensive water development plan.**

10 1. Biennially, the commission shall develop and maintain a comprehensive water  
11 development plan organized on a river basin perspective, including an inventory of  
12 future water projects for budgeting and planning purposes.

13 2. As part of the commission's planning process, to~~to~~ facilitate local project sponsor  
14 participation and project prioritization and to assist in education regarding life cycle  
15 analyses for municipal water supply projects, and economic analyses for flood control  
16 and water conveyance projects expected to cost more than one million dollars, the  
17 commission shall develop a policy that outlines procedures for~~hold~~  
18 commissioner-hosted meetings within the upper Missouri River, lower Missouri River,

1 James River, upper Red River, lower Red River, Mouse River, Devils Lake, Little  
2 Missouri River, upper Heart River, and upper Cannonball River drainage basins.

3 3. The commission may not require ~~or conduct a life-cycle~~an economic analysis for a  
4 ~~municipal water supply project or an economic analysis for a flood control and water~~  
5 ~~conveyance project,~~an assessment drain project if the project is expected to cost ~~less-~~  
6 ~~than seven hundred fifty thousand~~one million dollars ~~or less.~~

7 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 61-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
8 and enacted as follows:

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

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

13 **SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - FORMULA FOR ECONOMIC**

14 **ANALYSIS FOR ASSESSMENT DRAIN PROJECTS.** During the 2025-26 interim, the  
15 legislative management shall study the formula for conducting an economic analysis for  
16 assessment drain projects and the projected cost threshold for conducting economic analyses.  
17 The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any  
18 legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.

19 **SECTION 4. EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 2 of this Act is effective through July 31, 2027,  
20 and after that date is ineffective.