

Introduced by

Senators Schneider, Armstrong

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new chapter to title 54 of the North Dakota Century
2 Code, relating to the North Dakota legacy foundation.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new chapter to title 54 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
5 enacted as follows:

6 **North Dakota legacy foundation - Executive committee - Duties.**

7 The North Dakota legacy foundation is created.

- 8 1. The foundation is composed of nine members appointed by the governor for two-year
9 terms, except the governor shall appoint approximately one-half of the initial
10 foundation members to one-year terms in order to initiate a cycle of staggered terms.
11 Appointment of the foundation members must ensure diverse personal and
12 professional backgrounds; geographic, gender, and ethnic diversity; and
13 interdisciplinary experience and expertise that spans priority areas identified by the
14 legislative assembly. Additional temporary board members may be appointed to
15 provide sufficient expertise in identified topic areas.
- 16 2. The foundation members shall elect an executive committee with a minimum of three
17 and a maximum of five foundation members, which must include a chairman, vice
18 chairman, secretary, treasurer, and up to two members at large.
- 19 3. The foundation shall seek funding for administrative expenses from private sector
20 sources and may seek and distribute private sector funds used for the purposes
21 described in this section. The private sector funds are not public moneys for any
22 purpose and are not subject to section 12 of article X of the Constitution of North
23 Dakota.
- 24 4. The foundation shall:

- 1 a. Undertake a fundamental, broad-based and statewide assessment of any
2 identified biennial priorities for use of legacy fund earnings.
- 3 b. Consider as a first and ongoing biennial priority the development of a
4 comprehensive strategy and action plan for building a world-class primary and
5 secondary education system.
- 6 c. Consider priorities to establish for use of legacy fund earnings, to provide optimal
7 present and future benefits to the residents of North Dakota, which may include:
8 (1) Endowing a higher education scholarship program to help the residents of
9 North Dakota reach their full potential and to attract talent and capital to our
10 state;
11 (2) Establishing a "genius initiative" to foster transformative private and public
12 sector innovation that increases prosperity, creates opportunity, and
13 enhances the quality of life; and
14 (3) Investing in twenty-first century economic and community infrastructure to
15 expand and diversify North Dakota's productive potential and to improve
16 North Dakota's communities.
- 17 d. Outline a strategic program of action for each of the identified biennial priorities,
18 recommend a funding level to accomplish the objectives, and incorporate clear
19 milestones and outcomes for accountability and success.
- 20 e. Present a biennial report to the legislative management, together with any
21 legislation necessary to implement recommendations in the report. The report
22 must include:
23 (1) The foundation's recommended priorities for use of legacy fund earnings
24 during the ensuing biennium.
25 (2) The foundation's ten-year strategic plan for use of legacy fund earnings,
26 including a maximum of three ongoing areas of focus to ensure future
27 legacy fund earnings are employed to provide optimal present and future
28 benefits to the residents of North Dakota.
- 29 f. Monitor legislation and initiatives that may impact the foundation or the use of
30 legacy fund earnings.

- 1 g. Serve as a source of expertise for developing public and private initiatives to
2 ensure that North Dakota's legacy fund will provide a permanent and sustainable
3 resource for future generations by fostering self-sufficiency, creating opportunity,
4 and enhancing the quality of life for all residents of North Dakota.

5 **Compensation and reimbursement of foundation members.**

- 6 The foundation may establish the level of compensation to which a foundation member is
7 entitled. A foundation member is entitled to reimbursement for mileage and expenses as
8 provided for state officers.