

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1437
(Representatives Beltz, Brandenburg, Hagert, Kempenich, Mitskog, Satrom, Thomas)
(Senators Klein, Luick, Wanzek)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the creation of regional livestock planning grants; and to provide for an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 4.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Regional livestock development and planning program - Grants.

1. The commissioner shall administer a grant program to assist counties and regional planning councils, as defined in chapter 54-40.1, for livestock development planning. A county or a regional planning council may submit an application for assistance under this section to the commissioner.
2. The commissioner shall award grants to counties and regional planning councils for purposes of coordinating strategic planning and accommodating and encouraging investment in livestock production. Grants shall be awarded for the following activities:
 - a. Identification of suitable locations for rural economic development, including animal feeding operations, agricultural processing and storage facilities, and other agricultural-related development. The following factors must be considered when identifying suitable locations for rural economic development:
 - (1) Local zoning and land use regulations;
 - (2) State permitting requirements; and
 - (3) Availability of infrastructure and natural resources necessary to accommodate rural economic development projects.
 - b. Review and updating of township zoning and land use regulations.
3. Grants awarded under this section may not exceed:
 - a. Up to twelve thousand dollars for every county included in an application for activities described in subdivision a of subsection 2.
 - b. Up to five hundred dollars for every township included in an application for activities described in subdivision b of subsection 2.
4. Any information created, collected, or maintained by the commissioner which identifies individual parcels of land for rural economic development is confidential and not subject to the open records requirements of section 44-04-18.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - ENVIRONMENT AND RANGELAND PROTECTION FUND - AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER - REGIONAL LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the environment and rangeland protection fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,200,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the agriculture commissioner for the purpose of identifying locations for rural economic development, including animal feeding operations, agricultural processing and

storage facilities, and other agricultural-related development, and assisting the review and updating of township zoning and land use regulations, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1437.

House Vote: Yeas 81 Nays 9 Absent 4

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 1 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2023,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State