

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the department of  
2 commerce; and to provide for a transfer.

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

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds  
5 as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state  
6 treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and  
7 other income, to the department of commerce for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the  
8 department of commerce, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023.

	Governor's			
	<u>Base Level</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	
10				
11	Salaries and wages	\$13,217,286	\$12,941,861	\$13,217,286
12	Operating expenses	14,873,203	16,929,189	14,873,203
13	Grants	52,638,527	53,282,330	52,638,527
14	Discretionary funds	2,150,000	1,550,000	2,150,000
15	North Dakota trade office	1,600,000	750,000	1,600,000
16	Partner programs	1,562,531	1,562,531	1,562,531
17	Entrepreneurship grants and vouchers	948,467	948,467	948,467
18	CARES Act funding	<u>0</u>	<u>8,000,000</u>	<u>0</u>
19	Total all funds	\$86,990,014	\$95,964,378	\$86,990,014
20	Less estimated income	<u>54,123,293</u>	<u>62,565,608</u>	<u>54,123,293</u>
21	Total general fund	\$32,866,721	\$33,398,770	\$32,866,721
22	Full-time equivalent positions	61.80	58.80	61.80

23 **SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING.** The following amounts reflect the one-time funding  
24 items approved by the sixty-sixth legislative assembly for the 2019-21 biennium:

	<u>One-Time Funding Description</u>	<u>2019-21</u>	<u>2021-23</u>
1			
2	Unmanned aircraft system	\$2,225,000	\$0
3	Enhanced use lease grant	3,000,000	0
4	Workforce grants to tribally controlled community colleges	500,000	0
5	Census 2020 program	1,000,000	0
6	Workforce safety grant	1,000,000	0
7	Entrepreneurship grants and vouchers	2,000,000	0
8	Sculpture maintenance grants	75,000	0
9	Nonresident nurse employment recruitment	500,000	0
10	Intermodal container transportation shipping fees	1,300,000	0
11	Job development and economic growth grant	<u>25,000</u>	<u>0</u>
12	Total all funds	\$11,625,000	\$0
13	Less estimated income	<u>4,300,000</u>	<u>0</u>
14	Total general fund	\$7,325,000	\$0

15       **SECTION 3. TRANSFER - INTERNSHIP FUND.** The office of management and budget  
 16 shall transfer \$855,000 of the amount appropriated in the operating expenses line item in  
 17 section 1 of this Act to the internship fund for the purpose of administering the operation intern  
 18 program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023.

19       **SECTION 4. BIOTECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM.** The grants line item in section 1 of  
 20 this Act includes \$300,000 from the general fund for the purpose of providing biotechnology  
 21 grants to a local association with bioscience experience to promote bioscience and  
 22 biotechnology research and business development in North Dakota agriculture and life and  
 23 energy science industries.

24       **SECTION 5. DISCRETIONARY FUNDS - RURAL HEALTH.** Of the \$2,150,000 from the  
 25 general fund appropriated in the discretionary funds line item in section 1 of this Act, \$200,000  
 26 is designated for the purpose of providing matching funds to an organization assisting in the  
 27 recruitment, distribution, and supply, and enhancing the quality and efficiency of personnel  
 28 providing health services in rural areas of the state.

29       **SECTION 6. TRADE OFFICE - MATCHING FUND REQUIREMENT.** The North Dakota  
 30 trade office line item and the general fund appropriation in section 1 of this Act include  
 31 \$1,600,000 of funding related to the North Dakota trade office. The department of commerce

1 may spend sixty percent of this amount without requiring any matching funds from the trade  
2 office. Any additional amounts may be spent only to the extent the North Dakota trade office  
3 provides one dollar of matching funds from private or other public sources for each one dollar  
4 provided by the department. Matching funds may include money spent by businesses or  
5 organizations to pay salaries to export assistants, providing training to export assistants, or buy  
6 computer equipment as part of the North Dakota trade office's export assistance program.

7 **SECTION 7. ENTREPRENEURSHIP GRANTS AND VOUCHER PROGRAM.** The  
8 entrepreneurship grants and voucher line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$948,467, of  
9 which \$740,956 is from the general fund and \$207,511 is from the economic development fund,  
10 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the entrepreneurship grants and voucher program.  
11 The department shall establish guidelines to provide grants to entrepreneurial centers certified  
12 by the department. The department also shall establish guidelines to award vouchers to  
13 entrepreneurs to procure business development assistance from certified entrepreneurial  
14 centers or to provide grants to entrepreneurs working with an entrepreneurial center.