

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a manufacturing initiative to assist manufacturers; to provide for  
2 a report to the legislative council; and to provide an appropriation.

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

4 **SECTION 1. DAKOTA MANUFACTURING INITIATIVE.** The department of commerce  
5 shall seek to contract with the Dakota manufacturing extension partnership, incorporated, to  
6 implement the Dakota manufacturing initiative. The initiative includes building a membership  
7 association of manufacturers in North Dakota and South Dakota, complementing existing  
8 national, regional, and local manufacturing entities; providing nonduplicative services to the  
9 association's manufacturing members which address critical needs, including identifying and  
10 developing private procurement opportunities; and developing a consortium of major  
11 manufacturers in North Dakota and South Dakota to design and support overall supply chain  
12 development and supplier development. Under the initiative, state funds must be leveraged  
13 with additional public and private funds, which may include federal funding sources, South  
14 Dakota state funding, and funding from manufacturers.

15 **SECTION 2. REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.** During the 2005-06 interim, the  
16 commissioner of commerce shall report to the legislative council on the status of the Dakota  
17 manufacturing initiative provided for under section 1 of this Act. This report must include  
18 information regarding how the initiative has been established and regarding the activities of the  
19 Dakota manufacturing extension partnership, incorporated. The commissioner shall include in  
20 the report whether the state should continue this initiative or whether the goal of assisting  
21 manufacturers would be better served by alternative means. The commissioner shall report  
22 whether there are potential changes that could be made to improve the networking of  
23 manufacturing businesses and other suppliers in this state.

1           **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the  
2 general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$165,000, or so much  
3 of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of contracting  
4 with the Dakota manufacturing extension partnership, incorporated, to implement the Dakota  
5 manufacturing initiative, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2007.