

**Sixty-third Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 8, 2013**

SENATE BILL NO. 2344
(Senators Sorvaag, Miller, Unruh)
(Representatives Brabandt, Hatlestad, Owens)

AN ACT to provide an appropriation for training service dogs; and to provide for a legislative management study.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$50,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of veterans' affairs for the purpose of training service dogs to assist North Dakota veterans having posttraumatic stress disorder, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015.

1. A payment under this section may be made by the department of veterans' affairs only upon the completion of a service dog's training.
2. Payment may not exceed \$12,500 per service dog.

SECTION 2. VETERANS SERVICE DOG TRAINING - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REPORT. The department of veterans' affairs shall provide a report to the legislative management during the 2013-14 interim regarding the status of the service dog training program, including benefits to veterans, number of applicants, and number of service dogs provided.

SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY. The legislative management shall consider studying statutory changes that would benefit North Dakota veterans and include therein possible changes to state income taxes and property taxes, the provision of veteran-focused incentives, assistance with obtaining and maintaining benefits, and assistance with obtaining and maintaining various life-enhancing services. The legislative management shall consider studying current state and federal benefits available to North Dakota veterans. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fourth legislative assembly.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-third Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2344.

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 72 Nays 20 Absent 2

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2013.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2013.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2013,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State