

**SENATE BILL NO. 2344**

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.