

**SECOND ENGROSSMENT  
with House Amendments  
REENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2343**

Introduced by

Senators Casper, Unruh, Wardner

Representatives Carlson, Kasper, Louser

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact four new sections to chapter 16.1-08.1 of the North  
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to campaign disclosure statements and use of campaign  
3 contributions; to amend and reenact sections 16.1-08.1-01, 16.1-08.1-02.1, 16.1-08.1-03.1,  
4 16.1-08.1-03.2, 16.1-08.1-03.3, and 16.1-08.1-03.5, subsection 3 of section 16.1-08.1-05, and  
5 subsection 5 of section 16.1-12-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to definitions  
6 and campaign disclosure statements; to repeal sections 16.1-08.1-02, 16.1-08.1-03,  
7 16.1-08.1-03.8, 16.1-08.1-03.9, 16.1-08.1-03.10, 16.1-08.1-03.11, 16.1-08.1-03.12,  
8 16.1-08.1-03.13, and 16.1-08.1-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to campaign  
9 disclosure statements; to provide a penalty; to provide for application; and to provide an  
10 effective date.

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

12 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-08.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
13 amended and reenacted as follows:

14 **16.1-08.1-01. Definitions.**

15 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

16 1. "Affiliate" means an organization that controls, is controlled by, or is under common  
17 control with another organization. For purposes of this definition, control means the  
18 possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the  
19 management and policies of an organization, whether through the ownership of voting  
20 securities, by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement  
21 services, or otherwise. Control is presumed to exist if an organization, directly or  
22 indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing  
23 fifty percent or more of the voting securities of any other organization.

- 1           2. "Association" means any club, association, union, brotherhood, fraternity, organization,  
2           or group of any kind of two or more persons, including labor unions, trade  
3           associations, professional associations, or governmental associations, which is united  
4           for any purpose, business, or object and which assesses any dues, membership fees,  
5           or license fees in any amount, or which maintains a treasury fund in any amount. The  
6           term does not include corporations, cooperative corporations, limited liability  
7           companies, political committees, or political parties.
- 8           3. "Candidate" means an individual who seeks nomination for election or election to  
9           public office, and includes:
- 10          a. An individual holding public office;
- 11          b. An individual who has publicly declared that individual's candidacy for nomination  
12          for election or election to public office or has filed or accepted a nomination for  
13          public office;
- 14          c. An individual who has formed a campaign or other committee for that individual's  
15          candidacy for public office;
- 16          d. An individual who has circulated a nominating petition to have that individual's  
17          name placed on the ballot; and
- 18          e. An individual who has, in any manner, solicited or received a contribution for that  
19          individual's candidacy for public office, whether before or after the election for  
20          that office.
- 21          4. "Conduit" means a person that is not a political party, political committee, or candidate  
22          and which receives a contribution of money and transfers the contribution to a  
23          candidate, political party, or political committee when the contribution is designated  
24          specifically for the candidate, political party, or political committee and the person has  
25          no discretion as to the recipient and the amount transferred. The term includes a  
26          transactional intermediary, including a credit card company or a money transfer  
27          service that pays or transfers money to a candidate on behalf of another person.
- 28          5. "Contribution" means a gift, transfer, conveyance, provision, receipt, subscription,  
29          loan, advance, deposit of money, or anything of value, made for the purpose of  
30          influencing the nomination for election, or election, of any person to public office or  
31          aiding or opposing the circulation or passage of a statewide initiative or referendum

- 1 petition or measure. The term also means a contract, promise, or agreement, express  
2 or implied, whether or not legally enforceable, to make a contribution for any of the  
3 above purposes. The term includes funds received by a candidate for public office or a  
4 political party or committee which are transferred or signed over to that candidate,  
5 party, or committee from another candidate, party, or political committee or other  
6 source including a conduit. The term "anything of value" includes any good or service  
7 of more than a nominal value. The term "nominal value" means the cost, price, or  
8 worth of the good or service is trivial, token, or of no appreciable value. The term  
9 "contribution" does not include:
- 10 a. A loan of money from a bank or other lending institution made in the regular  
11 course of business.
  - 12 b. Time spent by volunteer campaign or political party workers.
  - 13 ~~e. Money spent by a candidate on the candidate's own behalf.~~
  - 14 ~~d.c.~~ Money or anything of value received for commercial transactions, including rents,  
15 advertising, or sponsorships made as a part of a fair market value bargained-for  
16 exchange.
  - 17 ~~e.d.~~ Money or anything of value received ~~by a candidate in that person's personal~~  
18 ~~capacity, including pursuant to a contract or agreement made for personal or~~  
19 ~~private employment purposes, and not received for anything other than a political~~  
20 ~~purpose or to influence the performance of that person's official duty.~~
  - 21 ~~f.e.~~ Contributions of products Products or services for which the actual cost or fair  
22 market value are reimbursed by a payment of money.
  - 23 ~~g.f.~~ An independent expenditure.
  - 24 g. The value of advertising paid by a political party, multicandidate political  
25 committee, or caucus which is in support of a candidate.
  - 26 h. In-kind contributions from a candidate to the candidate's campaign.
- 27 6. "Cooperative corporations", "corporations", and "limited liability companies" are as  
28 defined in this code, and for purposes of this chapter "corporations" includes nonprofit  
29 corporations. However, if a political committee, the only purpose of which is accepting  
30 contributions and making expenditures for a political purpose, incorporates for liability

- 1 purposes only, the committee is not considered a corporation for the purposes of this  
2 chapter.
- 3 7. "Expenditure" means:
- 4 a. A gift, transfer, conveyance, provision, loan, advance, payment, distribution,  
5 disbursement, outlay, or deposit of money or anything of value, except a loan of  
6 money from a bank or other lending institution made in the regular course of  
7 business, made for a political purpose or for the purpose of influencing the  
8 passage or defeat of a measure.
- 9 b. A contract, promise, or agreement, express or implied, whether or not legally  
10 enforceable, to make any expenditure.
- 11 c. The transfer of funds by a political committee to another political committee.
- 12 d. An independent expenditure.;
- 13 8. ~~"Incidental committee" means a committee, club, association, or other group of~~  
14 ~~persons that makes a contribution or expenditure, but for which making contributions-~~  
15 ~~and expenditures for political purposes is not its primary purpose."~~Expenditure  
16 categories" means the categories into which expenditures must be grouped for reports  
17 under this chapter. The expenditure categories are:
- 18 a. Advertising;
- 19 b. Campaign loan repayment;
- 20 c. Operations;
- 21 d. Travel; and
- 22 e. Miscellaneous.
- 23 9. "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure made for a political purpose or for  
24 the purpose of influencing the passage or defeat of a measure if the expenditure is  
25 made without the express or implied consent, authorization, or cooperation of, and not  
26 in concert with or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate ~~or a candidate,~~  
27 ~~committee, or measure committee~~political party.
- 28 10. "Patron" means a person who owns equity interest in the form of stock, shares, or  
29 membership or maintains similar financial rights in a cooperative corporation.

- 1        11. "Person" means an individual, partnership, political committee, association,  
2            corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability company, or other organization or  
3            group of persons.
- 4        12. "Personal benefit" means a benefit to the candidate or another person which is not for  
5            a political purpose or related to a candidate's responsibilities as a public officeholder,  
6            and any other benefit that would convert a contribution to personal income.
- 7        13. "Political committee" means any committee, club, association, or other group of  
8            persons which receives contributions or makes expenditures for political purposes and  
9            includes the following:
- 10        a. A political action committee not connected to another organization and free to  
11            solicit funds from the general public, or derived from a corporation, cooperative  
12            corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or an association that is-  
13            prohibited from making a contribution for political purposes under section  
14            16.1-08.1-03.5, and which that solicits or receives contributions from its  
15            employees or members or makes expenditures for political purposes on behalf of  
16            its employees or members;
- 17        b. A candidate committee, established to support an individual candidate seeking  
18            statewide, judicial, or legislative public office which solicits or receives  
19            contributions for political purposes;
- 20        c. A political organization governed by the Internal Revenue Code and registered  
21            with the federal election commission, which solicits or receives contributions or  
22            makes expenditures for political purposes;
- 23        d. A multicandidate political committee, including a caucus, established to support  
24            multiple groups or slates of candidates seeking public office, that which solicits or  
25            receives contributions for political purposes; and
- 26        e. A measure committee, including an initiative or referendum sponsoring  
27            committee at any stage of its organization, which solicits or receives contributions  
28            or makes expenditures for the purpose of aiding or opposing a measure sought  
29            to be voted upon by the voters of the state, including any activities undertaken for  
30            the purpose of drafting an initiative or referendum petition, seeking approval of

1                   the secretary of state for the circulation of a petition, or seeking approval of the  
2                   submitted petitions; ~~and~~

3                   f. ~~An incidental committee.~~

4 ~~13.14.~~ "Political party" means any association, committee, or organization which nominates a  
5 candidate for election to any office which may be filled by a vote of the electors of this  
6 state or any of its political subdivisions and whose name appears on the election ballot  
7 as the candidate of such association, committee, or organization.

8 ~~14.15.~~ "Political purpose" means any activity undertaken in support of or in opposition to the  
9 election or nomination of a candidate to public office and includes using "vote for",  
10 "oppose", or any similar support or opposition language in any advertisement whether  
11 the activity is undertaken by a candidate, a political committee, a political party, or any  
12 person. In the period thirty days before a primary election and sixty days before a  
13 special or general election, "political purpose" also means any activity in which a  
14 candidate's name, office, district, or any term meaning the same as "incumbent" or  
15 "challenger" is used in support of or in opposition to the election or nomination of a  
16 candidate to public office. The term does not include activities undertaken in the  
17 performance of a duty of a ~~state~~public office or any position taken in any bona fide  
18 news story, commentary, or editorial.

19 ~~15.16.~~ "Public office" means every office to which an individual can be elected by vote of the  
20 people under the laws of this state.

21 ~~16.17.~~ "Subsidiary" means an affiliate of a corporation under the control of the corporation  
22 directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries.

23                   **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-08.1-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
24 amended and reenacted as follows:

25                   **16.1-08.1-02.1. State political party convention revenue and expense statement**  
26 **required.**

- 27                   1. State political parties shall establish separate and segregated accounts for the  
28 management of state nominating conventions. All revenue obtained and expenditures  
29 made for the planning and running of a state convention must be accounted for in  
30 these accounts.

- 1           2. A postconvention statement must be filed with the secretary of state sixty days after  
2           the close of the state nominating convention. The reporting period for the  
3           postconvention statement begins on the first day of January of the reporting year and  
4           ends thirty days after the close of the state nominating convention.
- 5           3. A year-end statement covering the entire calendar year must be filed with the  
6           secretary of state ~~no later than the thirty-first day of January~~before February first of the  
7           following year even if no convention revenue was received or expenditures made  
8           within the calendar year.
- 9           4. The statement filed according to this section must show the following:
- 10          a. ~~The cash-on-hand in~~balance of the filer's convention accounts at the start and  
11          close of the reporting period;
- 12          b. The gross total of all revenue received and expenditures made of two hundred  
13          dollars, or less;
- 14          c. The gross total of all revenue received and expenditures made in excess of two  
15          hundred dollars;
- 16          d. ~~The~~For each aggregated ~~totals of all~~ revenue received from a single person or  
17          entity in excess of two hundred dollars, ~~the~~;
- 18             (1) The name of each person or entity, ~~the~~;
- 19             (2) The mailing address of each person or entity, ~~the~~;
- 20             (3) The date of the most recent receipt of revenue from each person or entity, ~~and~~  
21             ~~the~~; and
- 22             (4) The purpose or purposes for which the aggregated revenue total was  
23             received from each person or entity;
- 24          e. ~~The aggregated totals of all expenditures~~For each aggregated expenditure made  
25          to a single person or entity in excess of two hundred dollars, ~~the~~;
- 26             (1) The name of each person or entity, ~~the~~;
- 27             (2) The mailing address of each person or entity, ~~the~~;
- 28             (3) The date of the most recent expense made to each person or entity, ~~and~~  
29             ~~the~~; and
- 30             (4) The purpose or purposes for which the aggregated expenditure total was  
31             disbursed to each person or entity; and

1           f. ~~A political party shall report~~For each aggregated revenue from an individual  
2           which totals five thousand dollars or more during the reporting period, the  
3           occupation, employer, and principal place of business of each person from whom  
4           five thousand dollars or more of revenue was received in the aggregate during  
5           the reporting periodthe individual must be disclosed.

6           5. ~~For the purposes of this section, the term entity is defined as any group consisting of~~  
7           ~~or representing more than one person.~~

8           6. If a net gain from the convention is transferred to the accounts established for the  
9           support of the nomination or election of candidates, the total transferred must be  
10          reported as a contribution in the statements required by section ~~16.1-08.1-035~~ of this  
11          Act.

12         7.6. If a net loss from the convention is covered by a transfer from the accounts  
13          established for the support of the nomination or election of candidates, the total  
14          transferred must be reported as an expenditure in the statements required by section  
15          ~~16.1-08.1-035~~ of this Act.

16         **SECTION 3.** A new section to chapter 16.1-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
17         created and enacted as follows:

18         **State political party building fund statement required.**

19         A state political party or nonprofit entity affiliated with or under the control of a state political  
20         party which receives a donation for purchasing, maintaining, or renovating a building shall file a  
21         statement with the secretary of state before February first of each calendar year. Any income or  
22         financial gain generated from a building purchased, maintained, or renovated from donations  
23         must be deposited in the building fund and must be disclosed when the political party or  
24         nonprofit entity files the statement required under this section. Money in the fund may be used  
25         only by the state political party or nonprofit entity affiliated with or under the control of a state  
26         political party for purchasing, maintaining, or renovating a building including the purchase of  
27         fixtures for the building. The statement may be submitted for filing beginning on January first  
28         and must include:

- 29           1. The balance of the building fund on January first;  
30           2. The name and mailing address of each donor;  
31           3. The amount of each donation;



- 1       4. The date each donation was received;
- 2       5. The name and mailing address of each recipient of an expenditure;
- 3       6. The amount of each expenditure;
- 4       7. The date each expenditure was made; and
- 5       8. The balance of the fund on December thirty-first.

6       **SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 16.1-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 created and enacted as follows:

8       **Pre-election, supplemental, and year-end campaign disclosure statement**  
9 **requirements for candidates, candidate committees, multicandidate committees, and**  
10 **nonstatewide political parties.**

- 11       1. Prior to the thirty-first day before a primary, general, or special election, a candidate or  
12 candidate committee formed on behalf of the candidate, a multicandidate political  
13 committee, or a political party other than a statewide political party soliciting or  
14 accepting contributions shall file a campaign disclosure statement that includes all  
15 contributions received from January first through the fortieth day before the election. A  
16 candidate whose name is not on the ballot and who is not seeking election through  
17 write-in votes, the candidate's candidate committee, and a political party that has not  
18 endorsed or nominated any candidate in the election is not required to file a statement  
19 under this subsection. The statement may be submitted for filing beginning on the  
20 thirty-ninth day before the election. The statement must include:
  - 21       a. For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two  
22 hundred dollars received during the reporting period:
    - 23       (1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;
    - 24       (2) The total amount of the contribution; and
    - 25       (3) The date the last contributed amount was received;
  - 26       b. The total of all aggregated contributions from contributors which total in excess of  
27 two hundred dollars during the reporting period;
  - 28       c. The total of all contributions received from contributors that contributed two  
29 hundred dollars or less each during the reporting period; and
  - 30       d. For a statewide candidate, a candidate committee formed on behalf of a  
31 statewide candidate, and a statewide multicandidate committee, the balance of

1                   the campaign fund on the fortieth day before the election and the balance of the  
2                   campaign fund on January first.

3           2. Beginning on the thirty-ninth day before the election through the day before the  
4           election, a person that files a statement under subsection 1 must file a supplemental  
5           statement within forty-eight hours of the start of the day following the receipt of a  
6           contribution or aggregate contribution from a contributor which is in excess of five  
7           hundred dollars. The statement must include:

- 8           a. The name and mailing address of the contributor;  
9           b. The total amount of the contribution received during the reporting period; and  
10          c. The date the last contributed amount was received.

11          3. Prior to February first, a candidate or candidate committee, a multicandidate political  
12          committee, or a nonstatewide political party soliciting or accepting contributions shall  
13          file a campaign disclosure statement that includes all contributions received and  
14          expenditures, by expenditure category, made from January first through December  
15          thirty-first of the previous year. The statement may be submitted for filing beginning on  
16          January first. The statement must include:

- 17          a. For a statewide candidate, a candidate committee formed on behalf of a  
18             statewide candidate, and a statewide multicandidate committee, the balance of  
19             the campaign fund on January first and on December thirty-first;  
20          b. For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two  
21             hundred dollars received during the reporting period:  
22             (1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;  
23             (2) The total amount of the contribution; and  
24             (3) The date the last contributed amount was received;  
25          c. The total of all aggregated contributions from contributors which total in excess of  
26             two hundred dollars during the reporting period;  
27          d. The total of all contributions received from contributors that contributed two  
28             hundred dollars or less each during the reporting period; and  
29          e. The total of all other expenditures made during the previous year, separated into  
30             expenditure categories.

- 1       4. A person required to file a statement under this section, other than a candidate for  
2           judicial office, county office, or city office, or a candidate committee for a candidate  
3           exempted under this subsection, shall report each aggregated contribution from a  
4           contributor which totals five thousand dollars or more during the reporting period. For  
5           these contributions from individuals, the statement must include the contributor's  
6           occupation, employer, and the employer's principal place of business.
- 7       5. A candidate for city office in a city with a population under five thousand and a  
8           candidate committee for the candidate are exempt from this section.
- 9       6. A candidate for county office and a candidate committee for a candidate for county  
10           office shall file statements under this chapter with the county auditor. A candidate for  
11           city office who is required to file a statement under this chapter and a candidate  
12           committee for such a candidate shall file statements with the city auditor. Any other  
13           person required to file a statement under this section shall file the statement with the  
14           secretary of state.
- 15       7. The filing officer shall assess and collect fees for any reports filed after the filing  
16           deadline.
- 17       8. To ensure accurate reporting and avoid commingling of campaign and personal funds,  
18           candidates shall use dedicated campaign accounts that are separate from any  
19           personal accounts.

20       **SECTION 5.** A new section to chapter 16.1-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
21 created and enacted as follows:

22       **Pre-election, supplemental, and year-end campaign disclosure statement**  
23 **requirements for statewide political parties and certain political committees.**

- 24       1. Prior to the thirty-first day before a primary, general, or special election, a statewide  
25           political party or a political committee not required to file statements under section 4 of  
26           this Act which is soliciting or accepting contributions shall file a campaign disclosure  
27           statement that includes all contributions received and expenditures made from  
28           January first through the fortieth day before the election. A political party that has not  
29           endorsed or nominated a candidate in an election is not required to file a statement  
30           under this subsection. A statement required to be filed under this subsection may be

- 1           submitted for filing beginning on the thirty-ninth day before the election. The statement  
2           must include:
- 3           a.   For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two  
4           hundred dollars received during the reporting period:
- 5           (1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;  
6           (2) The total amount of the contribution; and  
7           (3) The date the last contributed amount was received;
- 8           b.   The total of all aggregated contributions from contributors which total in excess of  
9           two hundred dollars during the reporting period;
- 10          c.   The total of all contributions received from contributors that contributed two  
11          hundred dollars or less each during the reporting period;
- 12          d.   For each recipient of an expenditure from campaign funds in excess of two  
13          hundred dollars in the aggregate:
- 14          (1) The name and mailing address of the recipient;  
15          (2) The total amount of the expenditure made to the recipient; and  
16          (3) The date the last expended amount was made to the recipient;
- 17          e.   The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds in excess of two  
18          hundred dollars;
- 19          f.   The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds of two hundred  
20          dollars or less; and
- 21          g.   The balance of the campaign fund on the fortieth day before the election and  
22          balance of the campaign fund on January first.
- 23          2.   Beginning on the thirty-ninth day before the election through the day before the  
24          election, a person that files a statement under subsection 1 must file a supplemental  
25          statement within forty-eight hours of the start of the day following the receipt of a  
26          contribution or aggregate contribution from a contributor which is in excess of five  
27          hundred dollars. The statement must include:
- 28          a.   The name and mailing address of the contributor;  
29          b.   The total amount of the contribution received during the reporting period; and  
30          c.   The date the last contributed amount was received.

- 1       3. Prior to February first, a statewide political party or a political committee that is not  
2       required to file a statement under section 4 of this Act shall file a campaign disclosure  
3       statement that includes all contributions received and expenditures made from  
4       January first through December thirty-first of the previous year. The statement may be  
5       submitted for filing beginning on January first. The statement must include:
- 6       a. For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two  
7       hundred dollars received during the reporting period:
- 8           (1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;  
9           (2) The total amount of the contribution; and  
10          (3) The date the last contributed amount was received;
- 11       b. The total of all aggregated contributions from contributors which total in excess of  
12       two hundred dollars during the reporting period;
- 13       c. The total of all contributions received from contributors that contributed two  
14       hundred dollars or less each during the reporting period;
- 15       d. For each recipient of an expenditure from campaign funds in excess of two  
16       hundred dollars in the aggregate:
- 17           (1) The name and mailing address of the recipient;  
18           (2) The total amount of the expenditure made to the recipient; and  
19           (3) The date the last expended amount was made to the recipient;
- 20       e. The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds in excess of two  
21       hundred dollars;
- 22       f. The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds of two hundred  
23       dollars or less; and
- 24       g. The balance of the campaign fund on January first and December thirty-first.
- 25       4. A person required to file a statement under this section shall disclose each aggregated  
26       contribution from a contributor which totals five thousand dollars or more during the  
27       reporting period. For these contributions from individuals, the statement must  
28       includethe contributor's occupation, employer, and the employer's principal place of  
29       business.
- 30       5. Statements under this section must be filed with the secretary of state.

1       6. The secretary of state shall assess and collect fees for any reports filed after the filing  
2           deadline.

3       **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-08.1-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5       **16.1-08.1-03.1. ~~Contributions statement~~Special requirements for statements required**  
6 **of measure committees circulating or promoting passage or defeat of initiated or**  
7 **referred measure.**

- 8       1. ~~Any person or measure committee, as described in section 16.1-08.1-01, that is~~  
9 ~~soliciting or accepting a contribution for the purpose of aiding or opposing the~~  
10 ~~circulation or passage of a statewide initiative or referendum petition or measure~~  
11 ~~placed upon a statewide ballot by action of the legislative assembly at any election~~  
12 ~~shall file a statement in accordance with this subsection if the person has received any~~  
13 ~~contribution in excess of one hundred dollars. The statement must include the name~~  
14 ~~and mailing address of each person that contributed in excess of one hundred dollars~~  
15 ~~to the person, the amount of each reportable contribution, and the date each~~  
16 ~~reportable contribution was received. The statement must include the name and~~  
17 ~~mailing address of each recipient of an expenditure exceeding one hundred dollars in~~  
18 ~~the aggregate, the amount of each reportable expenditure, and the date the~~  
19 ~~expenditure was made.~~
- 20       2. ~~A person or measure committee as described in section 16.1-08.1-01 which is~~  
21 ~~soliciting or accepting a contribution for the purpose of aiding or opposing the~~  
22 ~~circulation or passage of a statewide initiative or referendum petition or measure~~  
23 ~~placed upon a statewide ballot by action of the legislative assembly may not accept a~~  
24 ~~contribution of more than one hundred dollars from an out-of-state person or political~~  
25 ~~committee unless the contribution is accompanied by a certified statement from the~~  
26 ~~contributor listing the name, address, and amount contributed by each person that~~  
27 ~~contributed more than one hundred dollars of the contribution. The statement must~~  
28 ~~indicate if no person contributed in excess of one hundred dollars of the out-of-state~~  
29 ~~person's or political committee's overall contribution. The certified statement must also~~  
30 ~~list the occupation, employer, and principal place of business for each individual who~~  
31 ~~contributed more than one hundred dollars of the contribution. The person soliciting or~~

1            ~~accepting a contribution for the purpose of aiding the circulation of a statewide-~~  
2            ~~initiative or referendum petition or of promoting passage or defeat of a statewide-~~  
3            ~~initiated or referred measure shall include this statement with the contribution-~~  
4            ~~statement required to be filed under subsection 1.~~

5            3. ~~The statement required of a person or measure committee under subsection 1 must~~  
6            ~~be filed with the secretary of state no later than the thirty-second day before the date~~  
7            ~~of the election in which the measure appears or would have appeared on the ballot~~  
8            ~~complete from the beginning of that calendar year through the fortieth day before the~~  
9            ~~date of the election. A complete statement for the entire calendar year for each~~  
10           ~~statement required to be filed under this section must be filed no later than the~~  
11           ~~thirty-first day of January of the following year. Even if a person required to report~~  
12           ~~according to this section has not received any contributions in excess of one hundred~~  
13           ~~dollars during the reporting period, the person shall file a statement as required by this~~  
14           ~~chapter. A statement filed according to this section during the reporting period must~~  
15           ~~show the following:~~

- 16           a. ~~The gross total of all contributions received and expenditures made in excess of~~  
17           ~~one hundred dollars;~~  
18           b. ~~The gross total of all contributions received and expenditures made of one-~~  
19           ~~hundred dollars, or less; and~~  
20           c. ~~The cash on hand in the filer's account at the start and close of the reporting~~  
21           ~~period.~~For each reportable contribution and expenditure under section 5 of this  
22           Act, the threshold for reporting is one hundred dollars for any person or measure  
23           committee circulating or promoting passage or defeat of an initiated or referred  
24           measure.

25           2. For contributions received from an out-of-state contributor, a person or measure  
26           committee circulating or promoting passage or defeat of an initiated or referred  
27           measure shall include the following information regarding subcontributors in the  
28           statements required under section 5 of this Act:

- 29           a. A designation as to whether any person contributed in excess of one hundred  
30           dollars of the total contribution;

- 1           **b.** The name and mailing address of each subcontributor that contributed in excess  
2                                   of one hundred dollars of the total contribution;  
3           **c.** The contribution amounts of each disclosed subcontributor; and  
4           **d.** The occupation, employer, and address for the employer's principal place of  
5                                   business of each disclosed subcontributor.  
6           **3.** An initiative and referendum sponsoring committee also shall file a disclosure  
7                                   statement by the date the secretary of state approves the petition for circulation, and  
8                                   shall file an additional statement on the date the petitions containing the required  
9                                   number of signatures are submitted to the secretary of state for review. The  
10                                  statements required under this subsection must be in the same form as the year-end  
11                                  statements under section 5 of this Act.  
12           **4.** A sponsoring committee shall file a statement regarding its intent to compensate  
13                                  circulators before paying for petitions to be circulated.

14           **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-08.1-03.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
15 amended and reenacted as follows:

16           **16.1-08.1-03.2. Political committee and candidate registration.**

- 17           1. A political committee as defined in section 16.1-08.1-01 shall register its name and  
18                                  contact information, its agent's name and contact information, and a designation as to  
19                                  whether the committee is incorporated solely for the purpose of liability protection, with  
20                                  the secretary of state. A candidate who does not have a candidate committee shall  
21                                  register the candidate's name and contact information and, if the candidate has an  
22                                  agent, the agent's name and contact information with the secretary of state. The  
23                                  registration required under this section for a candidate or political committee that has  
24                                  not previously registered with the secretary of state must be submitted within fifteen  
25                                  business days of the receipt of any contribution or expenditure made.  
26           2. A candidate or political committee required to be registered under this section must  
27                                  register with the secretary of state each year during which the candidate holds public  
28                                  office or during which the political committee receives contributions or, makes  
29                                  expenditures for political purposes, or has a balance in the campaign account. An  
30                                  individual who no longer holds public office or an individual who no longer seeks public  
31                                  office must register with the secretary of state each year in which contributions are



1           received or, expenditures are made for political purposes, or has a balance in the  
2           campaign account.

3           3. A political committee that organizes and registers according to federal law and makes  
4           an independent expenditure or makes a disbursement in excess of two hundred  
5           dollars to a nonfederal candidate seeking public office, a political party, or political  
6           committee in this state is not required to register as a political committee according to  
7           this section if the political committee reports according to section 16.1-08.1-03.7.

8           4. ~~An incidental political committee is required to register under this section only as a~~  
9           ~~result of making a reportable expenditure or contribution in the aggregate during any~~  
10           ~~reporting period, but the registration under this section does not change the nature of~~  
11           ~~business for the organization.~~

12           5. Registration by a political committee under this section does not reserve the name for  
13           exclusive use nor does it constitute registration of a trade name under chapter 47-25.

14           **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-08.1-03.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
15           amended and reenacted as follows:

16           **16.1-08.1-03.3. Campaign contributions by corporations, cooperative corporations,**  
17           **limited liability companies, affiliates, subsidiaries, and associations - Violation - Penalty -**  
18           **Political action committees authorized.**

19           1. A corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or  
20           association may establish, administer, and solicit contributions to a separate and  
21           segregated fund to be utilized for political purposes by the corporation, cooperative  
22           corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association. It is unlawful  
23           for:

24           a. The person or persons controlling the fund to make contributions or expenditures  
25           utilizing money or anything of value secured by physical force, job discrimination,  
26           financial reprisals, or the threat of them; or utilize money from dues, fees,  
27           treasury funds, or other money required as a condition of membership in an  
28           association, or as a condition of employment; or utilize money obtained in any  
29           commercial transaction. Moneys from fees, dues, treasury funds, or money  
30           obtained in a commercial transaction may, however, be used to pay costs of  
31           administration of the fund.

- 1           b. Any person soliciting an employee, stockholder, patron, board member, or  
2           member for a contribution to the fund to fail to inform the employee or member of  
3           the political purposes of the fund at the time of the solicitation or of the general  
4           political philosophy intended to be advanced through committee activities.
- 5           c. Any person soliciting an employee or member for a contribution to the fund to fail  
6           to inform the employee or member at the time of the solicitation of the right to  
7           refuse to contribute without any reprisal.
- 8           d. Any contribution to be accepted without keeping an accurate record of the  
9           contributor and amount contributed and of amounts expended for political  
10          purposes.
- 11          e. Any contribution to be accepted from any person ~~who is~~ not an employee, a  
12          stockholder, a patron, a board member or a member of the corporation,  
13          cooperative corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or  
14          association maintaining the political action committee, except a corporation may  
15          accept a contribution from an employee, a stockholder, a patron, a board  
16          member, or a member of an affiliate or a subsidiary of the corporation.
- 17          f. Any expenditure made for political purposes to be reported under this section  
18          before control of the expenditure has been released by the political action  
19          committee except if there is a contract, a promise, or an agreement, expressed or  
20          implied, to make such expenditure.
- 21          2. ~~All political action committees, as described in section 16.1-08.1-01, formed for the~~  
22          ~~purpose of administering the segregated fund provided for in this section shall file a~~  
23          ~~statement showing the name and mailing address of each contributor of an amount in~~  
24          ~~excess of two hundred dollars in the aggregate for the reporting period and a listing of~~  
25          ~~all expenditures of an amount in excess of two hundred dollars in the aggregate made~~  
26          ~~for political purposes with the secretary of state. The statement must include the~~  
27          ~~amount of each reportable contribution and the date it was received and the amount of~~  
28          ~~each reportable expenditure and the date it was made. A year-end statement covering~~  
29          ~~the entire calendar year must be filed no later than the thirty-first day of January of the~~  
30          ~~following year. A pre-election statement must be filed no later than the thirty-second~~  
31          ~~day before any primary, special, or general election and must be complete from the~~

- 1           ~~beginning of the calendar year through the fortieth day before the election. Even if a~~  
2           ~~political action committee has not received any contributions or made any~~  
3           ~~expenditures in excess of two hundred dollars during the reporting period, the political~~  
4           ~~action committee shall file a statement as required by this chapter. A statement filed~~  
5           ~~according to this section during the reporting period must show the following:~~
- 6           a.   ~~The gross total of all contributions received and expenditures made in excess of~~  
7                 ~~two hundred dollars;~~
- 8           b.   ~~The gross total of all contributions received and expenditures made of two~~  
9                 ~~hundred dollars, or less; and~~
- 10          c.   ~~The cash on hand in the filer's account at the start and close of the reporting~~  
11                 ~~period.~~
- 12          3.   ~~A political action committee shall report the occupation, employer, and principal place~~  
13                 ~~of business of each person, or the political committee if not already registered~~  
14                 ~~according to state or federal law, who contributed five thousand dollars or more in the~~  
15                 ~~aggregate during the reporting period.~~
- 16          4.   A person may not make a payment of that person's money or of another person's  
17                 money to any other person for a political purpose in any name other than that of the  
18                 person ~~who~~that supplies the money and a person may not knowingly receive the  
19                 payment nor enter nor cause the payment to be entered in that person's account or  
20                 record in any name other than that of the person by ~~whom~~which it actually was  
21                 furnished.
- 22          5-3. If an officer, employee, agent, attorney, or other representative of a corporation,  
23                 cooperative corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association  
24                 makes any contribution prohibited by this section out of corporate, cooperative  
25                 corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association funds or  
26                 otherwise violates this section, it is prima facie evidence of a violation by the  
27                 corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or  
28                 association.
- 29          6-4. A violation of this section may be prosecuted in the county where the contribution is  
30                 made or in any county in which it has been paid or distributed.

1     7-5. It is a class A misdemeanor for an officer, director, stockholder, manager, governor,  
2           member, attorney, agent, or representative of any corporation, cooperative  
3           corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association to violate this  
4           section or to counsel or consent to any violation. Any person ~~who~~that solicits or  
5           knowingly receives any contribution in violation of this section is guilty of a class A  
6           misdemeanor.

7     ~~8-6.~~ Any officer, director, stockholder, manager, governor, member, attorney, agent, or  
8           representative who makes, counsels, or consents to the making of a contribution in  
9           violation of this section is liable to the company, corporation, limited liability company,  
10          affiliate, subsidiary, or association for the amount so contributed.

11        **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-08.1-03.5 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
12    amended and reenacted as follows:

13        **16.1-08.1-03.5. Corporate contributions and expenditures - ~~Report~~Statement required.**

14        1. Corporations, cooperative corporations, limited liability companies, affiliates,  
15          subsidiaries, and associations may make expenditures and contributions for promoting  
16          any general political philosophy or belief deemed in the best interest of the employees,  
17          stockholders, patrons, or members of the corporation, cooperative corporation, limited  
18          liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association other than a "political purpose" as  
19          defined by this chapter. A corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability  
20          company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association may not make a contribution for a political  
21          purpose.

22        2. A corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or  
23          association may make a donation of property or money to a state political party or  
24          nonprofit entity affiliated with or under the control of a state political party for deposit in  
25          a separate and segregated building fund. ~~Money in the fund must be used exclusively~~  
26          ~~by the state political party or nonprofit entity affiliated with or under the control of a~~  
27          ~~state political party for purchasing, maintaining, or renovating a building and for the~~  
28          ~~purchase of fixtures for the building. A state political party or nonprofit entity affiliated~~  
29          ~~with or under the control of a state political party receiving a donation under this~~  
30          ~~subsection shall file a statement with the secretary of state no later than the thirty first~~  
31          ~~day of January of each calendar year. The statement must include the name and~~

1            mailing address of each donor, the amount of each donation, the date each donation  
2            was received, all expenditures made from the fund during the previous calendar year,  
3            and cash on hand in the fund at the start and close of the reporting period. Any income  
4            and financial gain generated from a building purchased, maintained, or renovated from  
5            donations authorized under this subsection and not otherwise authorized by law must  
6            be deposited in the building fund and must be reported when the political party or  
7            nonprofit entity files the statement required under this subsection.

8            3. A corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or  
9            association may make an expenditure to a measure committee as described in section  
10           16.1-08.1-01 for the purpose of promoting the passage or defeat of an initiated or  
11           referred measure or petition or make an expenditure to any other person that makes  
12           an independent expenditure. A corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability  
13           company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association may make an independent expenditure  
14           for a political purpose, including political advertising in support of or opposition to a  
15           candidate, political committee, or a political party, or for the purpose of promoting  
16           passage or defeat of initiated or referred measures or petitions. The corporation,  
17           cooperative corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association  
18           shall file a statement disclosing any expenditure made under this subsection with the  
19           secretary of state within forty-eight hours after making the expenditure. The statement  
20           must include:

- 21           a. The full name of the corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability  
22           company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association;
- 23           b. The complete address of the corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability  
24           company, affiliate, subsidiary, or association;
- 25           c. The name of the recipient of the expenditure;
- 26           d. If the expenditure is related to a measure or petition, the title of the measure or  
27           petition and whether the expenditure is made in support of or opposition to the  
28           measure or petition;
- 29           e. If the expenditure is related to a measure, the election date on which the  
30           measure either will appear or did appear on the ballot;
- 31           f. The amount of the expenditure;

- 1 g. The cumulative total amount of expenditures since the beginning of the calendar
- 2 year which are required to be reported under this subsection;
- 3 h. The telephone number and the printed name and signature of the individual
- 4 completing the statement, attesting to the statement being true, complete, and
- 5 correct; and
- 6 i. The date on which the statement was signed.

7 **SECTION 10.** A new section to chapter 16.1-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 created and enacted as follows:

9 **Personal use of contributions prohibited.**

10 A candidate may not use any contribution received by the candidate, the candidate's  
11 candidate committee, or a multicandidate political committee to:

- 12 1. Give a personal benefit to the candidate or another person;
- 13 2. Make a loan to another person;
- 14 3. Knowingly pay more than the fair market value for goods or services purchased for the  
15 campaign; or
- 16 4. Pay a criminal fine or civil penalty.

17 **SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 16.1-08.1-05 of the North Dakota  
18 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 19 3. An audit may not be made or requested of a statement for the sole reason that it was  
20 not timely filed with the secretary of state. An audit made or arranged according to this  
21 section must audit only those items required to be included in any statement,  
22 registration, or report filed with the secretary of state according to this chapter. The  
23 secretary of state may collect any payment obligation arising out of this section by civil  
24 action or by assignment to a collection agency, with any costs of collection to be  
25 added to the amount owed and to be paid by the delinquent filer. Any remaining  
26 moneys collected by the secretary of state after an audit is paid for under this section  
27 must be deposited in the state's general fund. This section does not apply to  
28 statements filed ~~according to sections 16.1-08.1-03.10 and 16.1-08.1-03.11 by~~  
29 candidates or candidate committees for candidates for county or city offices.

30 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 5 of section 16.1-12-02.2 of the North Dakota  
31 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1           5. An individual who intends to be a write-in candidate for any legislative district office  
2           shall file a certificate of write-in candidacy with the secretary of state. The certificate  
3           must contain the name, address, and signature of the candidate. Certificates must be  
4           filed by four p.m. on the fourth day before the election. ~~When the candidate files a~~  
5           ~~certificate, the candidate also shall file the contribution statement provided for under~~  
6           ~~section 16.1-08.1-02 complete through the day of the filing of the certificate.~~

7           **SECTION 13. REPEAL.** Sections 16.1-08.1-02, 16.1-08.1-03, 16.1-08.1-03.8,  
8           16.1-08.1-03.9, 16.1-08.1-03.10, 16.1-08.1-03.11, 16.1-08.1-03.12, 16.1-08.1-03.13, and  
9           16.1-08.1-04 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

10          **SECTION 14. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act becomes effective on February 1, 2018.

11          **SECTION 15. APPLICATION.** The provisions of this Act apply for campaign years that  
12          begin after December 31, 2017.