

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Initiated and Referred Measures Study Commission)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 16.1-06-09 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to initiated measures and election ballots.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-06-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **16.1-06-09. Constitutional amendments and initiated and referred measures - Manner**  
7 **of stating question - Fiscal impact statement - Explanation of effect of vote - Order of**  
8 **listing.**

9 Constitutional amendments or measures, initiated measures, and referred measures, duly  
10 certified to the county auditor by the secretary of state, or any other question or measure to be  
11 voted on, except the election of public officers at any primary, general, or special election  
12 including officers subject to a recall petition, must, unless otherwise determined by the secretary  
13 of state, be stated in full in a legible manner on the ballot. If the secretary of state concludes the  
14 amendment or measure is too long to make it practicable to print in full, the secretary of state in  
15 consultation with the attorney general shall cause to be printed a ~~short~~, concise summary, ~~which~~  
16 that must fairly represent the substance of the constitutional amendment or initiated or referred  
17 measure. After the foregoing statement, the secretary of state shall cause to be printed ~~another~~  
18 short, a statement of the estimated fiscal impact of the constitutional amendment or initiated or  
19 referred measure and a concise statement of the effect of an affirmative or negative vote on the  
20 constitutional amendment or initiated or referred measure. This explanatory statement must be  
21 drafted by the secretary of state in consultation with the attorney general. The words "Yes" and  
22 "No" must be printed on the ballot at the close of the statement regarding the effect of an  
23 affirmative or negative vote, in separate lines with an oval before each statement in which the

1 voter is to indicate how the voter desires to vote on the question by darkening the oval. If two or  
2 more amendments or questions are to be voted on, they must be printed on the same ballot.

3       The measures to be submitted to the electors must be grouped and classified as  
4 constitutional measures, initiated statutes, or referred statutes and must be placed within such  
5 groups or classifications by the secretary of state in the order received, for the purpose of  
6 placing them on the ballot. Measures submitted by the legislative assembly must be placed first  
7 on the ballot within their classification in the order approved by the legislative assembly.  
8 Constitutional measures shall be placed first on the ballot, initiated statutes second, and  
9 referred statutes third. After all the measures have been placed within the appropriate group or  
10 classification, all measures must be numbered consecutively, without regard to the various  
11 groups or classifications.