

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1069**

Introduced by

Judiciary Committee

(At the request of the Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 54-61-04 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to confidentiality provisions applicable to the commission on legal counsel for indigents.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-61-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **54-61-04. Records, files, and information - Accessibility - Confidentiality.**

7 ~~Any~~Except as otherwise provided in this section, any file, record, or information regarding  
8 representation of a party under sections 54-61-01 through 54-61-03 which ~~are~~is attorney  
9 work-product or otherwise subject to any attorney-client privilege ~~are~~is confidential and may not  
10 be disclosed except in accordance with a court order or in response to applicable discovery  
11 rules. Any file, record, or information regarding representation of a party under this chapter  
12 which is attorney work-product or otherwise subject to any attorney-client privilege may be  
13 disclosed to the party to whom representation was provided and to the attorney who provided  
14 representation under this chapter. All other case-related records are exempt from disclosure  
15 except as otherwise provided in rules adopted by the commission. Information or records  
16 obtained by the commission relating to allegations of misconduct by an attorney in the employ  
17 of, or providing indigent services for, the commission are exempt from disclosure except as  
18 otherwise provided in rules adopted by the commission unless and until the matter is referred  
19 for formal disposition under rules adopted by the supreme court.