

Sixty-seventh
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1215

Introduced by

Representatives M. Ruby, Dockter, Headland, Lefor, Louser, Paulson, Porter

Senators Bekkedahl, Burckhard, Krebsbach

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-17.8 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to an outdoor heritage revolving loan fund; to amend and reenact
3 section 54-17.8-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a transfer of funds to the
4 outdoor heritage revolving loan fund; to provide a continuing appropriation; to provide a transfer;
5 and to provide an effective date.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-17.8-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **54-17.8-02. North Dakota outdoor heritage fund - Continuing appropriation.**

- 10 1. There is created a North Dakota outdoor heritage fund ~~that is~~ governed by the
11 commission. ~~Any~~Except as provided in subsection 2, money deposited in the fund is
12 appropriated on a continuing basis to the commission for the purposes of this chapter.
13 Interest earned by the fund must be credited to the fund. The commission shall keep
14 accurate records of all financial transactions performed under this chapter.
- 15 2. Ten percent of the oil and gas gross production tax collections allocated to the North
16 Dakota outdoor heritage fund under section 57-51-15, not to exceed a cumulative total
17 of twenty-five million dollars, must be transferred by the state treasurer to the outdoor
18 heritage revolving loan fund under section 2 of this Act.

19 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 54-17.8 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
20 and enacted as follows:

21 **Outdoor heritage revolving loan fund - Continuing appropriation.**

- 22 1. There is created in the state treasury the outdoor heritage revolving loan fund. The
23 fund consists of all oil and gas gross production tax revenue transferred under section
24 54-17.8-02, interest upon moneys in the fund, and principal and interest payments to

1 the fund. All moneys in the fund are appropriated to the Bank of North Dakota on a
2 continuing basis to provide loans based on recommendations from the North Dakota
3 outdoor heritage advisory board and for administrative costs pursuant to this section.
4 2. The advisory board shall make recommendations for loans under this section. To be
5 eligible for a loan under this section, a project must meet the criteria under section
6 54-17.8-03. Projects not eligible for other state funding must be given priority for loans
7 under this section. Loans may not be issued from the fund until after July 31, 2025.
8 3. The Bank of North Dakota shall develop policies for the loans in consultation with the
9 advisory board, and the policies may include provisions for loan participation with local
10 financial institutions. To be eligible for a loan under this section, the entity shall agree
11 to provide the Bank with information as requested. The Bank shall review loan
12 applications. For a loan under this section, the term may not exceed twenty years, and
13 the interest rate must be the prevailing interest rate charged to North Dakota
14 governmental entities. The Bank shall deposit in the fund all principal and interest paid
15 on the loans made from the fund. The Bank may use a portion of the interest paid on
16 the outstanding loans as a servicing fee to pay for administrative costs, not to exceed
17 one-half of one percent of the amount of the interest payment. The Bank shall contract
18 with a certified public accounting firm to audit the fund if the fund has any outstanding
19 loans. The cost of the audit must be paid from the fund.

20 **SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 1 of this Act becomes effective for oil and gas
21 gross production tax revenue allocations after July 31, 2021.