

Sixty-third
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2344

Introduced by

Senators Sorvaag, Miller, Unruh

Representatives Brabandt, Hatlestad, Owens

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for training service dogs; and to provide for a
2 legislative management study.

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

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
5 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$50,000, or so much of the
6 sum as may be necessary, to the department of veterans' affairs for the purpose of training
7 service dogs to assist North Dakota veterans having posttraumatic stress disorder, for the
8 biennium beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015.

9 1. A payment under this section may be made by the department of veterans' affairs only
10 upon the completion of a service dog's training.

11 2. Payment may not exceed \$12,500 per service dog.

12 **SECTION 2. VETERANS SERVICE DOG TRAINING - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT**

13 **REPORT.** The department of veterans' affairs shall provide a report to the legislative
14 management during the 2013-14 interim regarding the status of the service dog training
15 program, including benefits to veterans, number of applicants, and number of service dogs
16 provided.

17 **SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY.** The legislative management shall
18 consider studying statutory changes that would benefit North Dakota veterans and include
19 therein possible changes to state income taxes and property taxes, the provision of
20 veteran-focused incentives, assistance with obtaining and maintaining benefits, and assistance
21 with obtaining and maintaining various life-enhancing services. The legislative management
22 shall consider studying current state and federal benefits available to North Dakota veterans.
23 The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any
24 legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fourth legislative assembly.