

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1437**

Introduced by

Representatives Beltz, Brandenburg, Hagert, Kempenich, Mitskog, Satrom, Thomas

Senators Klein, Luick, Wanzek

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the creation of regional livestock planning grants; and to provide for  
3 an appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Regional livestock development and planning program - Grants.**

8 1. The commissioner shall administer a grant program to assist counties and regional  
9 planning councils, as defined in chapter 54-40.1, for livestock development planning. A  
10 county or a regional planning council may submit an application for assistance under  
11 this section to the commissioner.

12 2. The commissioner shall award grants to counties and regional planning councils for  
13 purposes of coordinating strategic planning and accommodating and encouraging  
14 investment in livestock production. Grants shall be awarded for the following activities:

15 a. Identification of suitable locations for rural economic development, including  
16 confined animal feeding operations, agricultural processing and storage facilities,  
17 and other agricultural-related development. The following factors must be  
18 considered when identifying suitable locations for rural economic development:

19 (1) Local zoning and land use regulations;

20 (2) State permitting requirements; and

21 (3) Availability of infrastructure and natural resources necessary to  
22 accommodate rural economic development projects.

23 b. Review and updating of township zoning and land use regulations.

24 3. Grants awarded under this section may not exceed:

- 1           a. Twelve thousand dollars for every county included in an application for activities  
2           described in subdivision a of subsection 2.
- 3           b. Five hundred dollars for every township included in an application for activities  
4           described in subdivision b of subsection 2.
- 5           4. Any information created, collected, or maintained by the commissioner which identifies  
6           individual parcels of land for rural economic development is confidential and not  
7           subject to the open records requirements of section 44-04-18.

8           **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - REGIONAL**

9           **LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM.** There is appropriated  
10          out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum  
11          of \$1,210,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for  
12          the purpose of identifying locations for rural economic development, including confined animal  
13          feeding operations, agricultural processing and storage facilities, and other agricultural-related  
14          development, and assisting the review and updating of township zoning and land use  
15          regulations, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.