

NUISANCES

CHAPTER 434

HOUSE BILL NO. 1461
(Dietz, Dotzenrod)

AGRICULTURAL OPERATION NOT A NUISANCE

AN ACT concerning agricultural operations, and providing that no such operation shall be deemed a public or private nuisance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION - DEEMED NOT NUISANCE.

1. An agricultural operation is not, nor shall it become, a private or public nuisance by any changed conditions in or about the locality of such operation after it has been in operation for more than one year, if such operation was not a nuisance at the time the operation began; except that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply when a nuisance results from the negligent or improper operation of any such agricultural operation.
2. As used in this Act, "agricultural operation" means the science and art of production of plants and animals useful to man, by a corporation as provided in chapter 10-06, a partnership, or a proprietorship, and including, to a variable extent, the preparation of these products for man's use and their disposal by marketing or otherwise, and shall include horticulture, floriculture, viticulture, forestry, dairy, livestock, poultry, bee, and any and all forms of farm products, and farm production.
3. The provisions of subsection 1 of this section shall not affect or defeat the right of any person to recover damages for any injury or damage sustained by him on account of any pollution of or change in the condition of the waters of any stream or on account of any overflow of lands of any such person.
4. Any ordinance or resolution of any unit of local government that makes the operation of any agricultural operation a nuisance or provides for the abatement thereof as a nuisance under the circumstances set forth in this

section is void; except that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply when a nuisance results from the negligent or improper operation of any such agricultural operation or from an agricultural operation located within the corporate limits of any city as of the effective date of this Act.

5. This section shall not be construed to invalidate any contracts made prior to the enactment of this Act, but, insofar as contracts are concerned, it is only applicable to contracts and agreements to be made on or after the effective date of this Act.

Approved March 16, 1981