

Introduced by

Representatives Damschen, Hunskor, Kempenich, Monson

Senators Andrist, O'Connell

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study of reclamation standards.

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

3 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - OIL AND GAS RECLAMATION**
4 **STANDARDS.**

- 5 1. During the 2013-2014 interim, the legislative management shall study whether
6 reclamation standards related to oil and gas development can be improved to ensure
7 the successful reclamation of agricultural lands in this state, and to ensure that
8 productivity of these agricultural lands following reclamation is as near as possible to
9 the land's productivity before being used for oil and gas production. The study may
10 include consideration of:
- 11 a. Whether performance standards found in North Dakota Administrative Code
12 chapter 69-05.2 and used by the North Dakota public service commission for
13 reclamation of surface coal-mined lands should be utilized by the North Dakota
14 industrial commission for reclamation of lands used for oil and gas development.
 - 15 b. Whether additional and more detailed reclamation standards should be included
16 in state law and administrative rule, what standards should be included, and in
17 what manner such standards should be included.
 - 18 c. Input from representatives from the department of mineral resources, the school
19 of natural resource sciences' department of soil science at North Dakota state
20 university, the department of trust lands, the public service commission, the state
21 department of health, landowner groups, and professional soil classifiers
22 regulated by the state board of registration for professional soil classifiers.

Sixty-third
Legislative Assembly

- 1 2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
- 2 with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fourth
- 3 legislative assembly.