

Introduced by

Senators Castaneda, Paulson, Enget

Representatives Frelich, S. Olson, Rohr

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 11-11-70, 40-05-26, and 47-01-09 of the North  
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to ownership of land and development projects by a foreign  
3 adversary; and to provide for a legislative management report.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 11-11-70 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **11-11-70. Development by a foreign adversary - Prohibition. (Expired effective**  
8 **July 31, ~~2025~~2027)**

- 9 1. A board of county commissioners, including a board in a home rule county, may not  
10 procure, authorize, or approve a development agreement, building plan, or proposal  
11 relating to county development with an individual or government identified as a foreign  
12 adversary under ~~15 CFR 7.4(a)~~ title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, part 791.4(a) or  
13 a person identified on the office of foreign assets control sanctions list.
- 14 2. This section does not apply to a foreign adversary defined under subsection 1  
15 possessing an interest in real property if the foreign adversary:
- 16 a. Is a duly registered business and has maintained a status of good standing with  
17 the secretary of state for seven years or longer before August 1, 2023;
- 18 b. Has been approved by the committee on foreign investment in the United States;  
19 and
- 20 c. Maintains an active national security agreement with the federal government.

21 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 40-05-26 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
22 amended and reenacted as follows:

1           **40-05-26. Development by a foreign adversary - Prohibition. (Expired effective**  
2 **July 31, 20252027)**

- 3           1. A board of city commissioners or city council, including a board or council in a home  
4 rule city, may not procure, authorize, or approve a development agreement, building  
5 plan, or proposal relating to city development with an individual or government  
6 identified as a foreign adversary under ~~15 CFR 7.4(a)~~title 15, Code of Federal  
7 Regulations, part 791.4(a) or a person identified on the office of foreign assets control  
8 sanctions list.
- 9           2. This section does not apply to a foreign adversary as defined in subsection 1  
10 possessing an interest in real property if the foreign adversary:
- 11           a. Is a duly registered business and has maintained a status of good standing with  
12 the secretary of state for seven years or longer before August 1, 2023;
- 13           b. Has been approved by the committee on foreign investment in the United States;  
14 and
- 15           c. Maintains an active national security agreement with the federal government.

16           **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 47-01-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
17 amended and reenacted as follows:

18           **47-01-09. Public or private ownership - All property subject to - Foreign ownership**  
19 **prohibited. (Effective through July 31, 20252027)**

- 20           1. All property in this state has an owner, whether that owner is the United States or the  
21 state, and the property public, or the owner an individual, and the property private. The  
22 state also may hold property as a private proprietor.
- 23           2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following governments or entities may  
24 not purchase or otherwise acquire title to real property in this state after July 31, 2023:
- 25           a. A foreign adversary.
- 26           b. A foreign business entity with a principal executive office located in a country that  
27 is identified as a foreign adversary.
- 28           c. A foreign business entity in which a foreign adversary owns:
- 29           (1) More than fifty percent of the total controlling interests or total ownership  
30 interests, as defined under section 10-19.1-01, in the foreign business

- 1                   entity, unless the foreign business entity was operating lawfully in the United  
2                   States on August 1, 2023; or
- 3           (2) Fifty percent or less of the total controlling interests or total ownership  
4           interests, as defined under section 10-19.1-01, in the foreign business  
5           entity, if the foreign adversary directs the business operations and affairs of  
6           the foreign business entity without the requirement of consent of any  
7           nonforeign adversary, unless the foreign business entity was operating  
8           lawfully in the United States on August 1, 2023.
- 9           3. When requested by a city council or commission, county commission, or title agent or  
10           company, the attorney general shall complete a civil review, to the extent allowable by  
11           law, relating to the qualifications of any foreign adversary business entity acquiring real  
12           property under subdivision c of subsection 2.
- 13           4. This section does not apply to an entity possessing an interest in real property under  
14           subsection 2 if the entity:
- 15           a. Is a duly registered business and has maintained a status of good standing with  
16           the secretary of state for seven years or longer before August 1, 2023;
- 17           b. Has been approved by the committee on foreign investment in the United States;  
18           and
- 19           c. Maintains an active national security agreement with the federal government.
- 20           5. A foreign government or foreign business entity subject to and in violation of this  
21           section shall divest itself of all real property in this state within thirty-six months after  
22           August 1, 2023.
- 23           6. If a foreign government or foreign business entity subject to this section fails to divest  
24           itself of all real property in this state within the period specified under subsection 4, the  
25           state's attorney of the county in which the majority of the real property is situated may  
26           issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to appear to provide testimony or produce  
27           records.
- 28           7. Upon receiving testimony and records, if the state's attorney concludes a foreign  
29           government or foreign business entity, in violation of this section, has failed to divest  
30           ownership of real property as required under this section, the state's attorney shall  
31           commence an action in the district court of the county in which the majority of the real

1 property is situated. Once the action is commenced, the state's attorney shall file a  
2 notice pursuant to section 28-05-07 with the recorder of each county where the real  
3 property subject to the action is situated. If the court finds divestment of real property  
4 under this section is proper, the district court shall enter an order consistent with its  
5 findings. As part of the order, the court shall cancel the notice pursuant to section  
6 28-05-08.

7 8. Pursuant to an order for divestment, a foreign government or foreign business entity  
8 subject to an order shall divest all real property within six months from the date of the  
9 final entry of judgment. A foreign government or foreign business entity that fails to  
10 comply with the court's order is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed twenty-five  
11 thousand dollars.

12 9. Any real property not divested within the period prescribed by law may be sold at a  
13 public sale in the manner provided under chapter 32-19 through an action brought by  
14 the state's attorney. A title to real property or encumbrance on the real property may  
15 not be deemed invalid by an order of divestiture under this section.

16 10. A person that is not subject to this section may not be required to:  
17 a. Determine whether another person is subject to this section; or  
18 b. Inquire if another person is subject to this section.

19 11. For purposes of this section, "foreign adversary" means an individual or a government  
20 identified as a foreign adversary in ~~15 CFR 7.4(a)~~title 15, Code of Federal  
21 Regulations, part 791.4(a) or a person identified on the office of foreign assets control  
22 sanctions list.

23 **Public or private ownership - All property subject to. (Effective after July 31,**  
24 **~~2025~~2027)**

25 All property in this state has an owner, whether that owner is the United States or the state,  
26 and the property public, or the owner an individual, and the property private. The state also may  
27 hold property as a private proprietor.

28 **SECTION 4. DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES - FOREIGN ADVERSARY**  
29 **THREAT ASSESSMENT - REPORT - ONE-TIME FUNDING - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT**  
30 **REPORT.**

31 1. The department of emergency services shall:

- 1           a. Identify sectors and industries most vulnerable to foreign adversarial influence,  
2                   including critical infrastructure, technology, agriculture, energy, and academia;
- 3           b. Assess foreign adversarial influence beyond land acquisition, including strategic  
4                   investments, partnerships, and other forms of economic, educational, and  
5                   political influence;
- 6           c. Evaluate existing investments and activities to determine compliance with  
7                   federal, state, and local laws;
- 8           d. Identify sectors in which foreign adversarial influence is often unmonitored or  
9                   under reported; and
- 10          e. Propose broad mitigation strategies relating to identified risks and vulnerabilities  
11                   to enhance the state's ability to manage foreign adversarial influence while  
12                   supporting economic growth and security.
- 13          2. By July 1, 2026, the department of emergency services shall produce a written report  
14             outlining its findings and recommendations. The report must:
  - 15            a. Provide a detailed analysis of the foreign adversary threats and vulnerabilities  
16                   specific to the state;
  - 17            b. Identify critical risks across sectors, including infrastructure, security, academia,  
18                   and economic investments;
  - 19            c. Provide sector specific mitigation recommendations designed to reduce  
20                   vulnerabilities in infrastructure, academic institutions, economic investments, and  
21                   other prominent sectors in the state; and
  - 22            d. Include a proposal providing for the establishment of a state intelligence unit and  
23                   the structure, roles, and operational procedures required for continuous  
24                   monitoring of foreign adversary threats by the state intelligence unit.
- 25          3. Before September 1, 2026, the department of emergency services shall present the  
26             recommendations in the report under subsection 2, and any proposed legislation  
27             necessary to implement the recommendations, to the legislative management. The  
28             findings in the report must remain in the exclusive possession and under the control of  
29             the department of emergency services and is an exempt record under chapter 44-04.