

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1040  
(Agriculture Committee)  
(At the request of the Department of Water Resources)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 61-34-04 of North Dakota Century Code, relating to eligibility for the drought disaster livestock water assistance program.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-34-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**61-34-04. Eligibility - Application for assistance.**

Applicants with livestock water supply problems caused by drought may apply for assistance from the program. ~~An applicant must first apply for water cost share assistance from the United States department of agriculture farm service agency. If cost share assistance is denied by the agency, the applicant may forward the application to the commission for consideration. An application forwarded to the commission must include a document from the United States department of agriculture farm service agency stating the reason for denial of cost share assistance.~~ The department of water resources shall review all applications received by the commission. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a water supply project commenced after application for funding is made but without prior approval of the department is eligible for funding consideration from the program. The department shall provide funds for approved applications in accordance with rules and criteria for eligibility and only to the extent that funding is available. A drought disaster livestock water assistance program project located on Indian land is eligible for the program.

*Robin Wiesing*  
Speaker of the House

*Michelle Strickland*  
President of the Senate

*Bruce J. Reek*  
Chief Clerk of the House

*Mandi Meyer*  
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1040.

House Vote:      Yeas 91              Nays 0              Absent 3

Senate Vote:    Yeas 46              Nays 1              Absent 0

*Bruce J. Reek*  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 11:30 A.M. on March 13, 2025.

Approved at 1:22 P.M. on March 14, 2025.

*Rudy*  
Governor

Filed in this office this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025,  
at 4:35 o'clock P M.

*Michael Howe*  
Secretary of State