

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with House Amendments  
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2344**

Introduced by

Senators Sorvaag, Miller, Unruh

Representatives Brabandt, Hatlestad, Owens

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for training service dogs; and to provide for a  
2 legislative management study.

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

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general  
5 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$50,000, or so much of the  
6 sum as may be necessary, to the department of veterans' affairs for the purpose of training  
7 service dogs to assist North Dakota veterans having posttraumatic stress disorder, for the  
8 biennium beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015.

9 1. A payment under this section may be made by the department of veterans' affairs only  
10 upon the completion of a service dog's training.

11 2. Payment may not exceed \$12,500 per service dog.

12 **SECTION 2. VETERANS SERVICE DOG TRAINING - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT**

13 **REPORT.** The department of veterans' affairs shall provide a report to the legislative  
14 management during the 2013-14 interim regarding the status of the service dog training  
15 program, including benefits to veterans, number of applicants, and number of service dogs  
16 provided.

17 **SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY.** The legislative management shall  
18 consider studying statutory changes that would benefit North Dakota veterans and include  
19 therein possible changes to state income taxes and property taxes, the provision of  
20 veteran-focused incentives, assistance with obtaining and maintaining benefits, and assistance  
21 with obtaining and maintaining various life-enhancing services. The legislative management  
22 shall consider studying current state and federal benefits available to North Dakota veterans.  
23 The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any  
24 legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-fourth legislative assembly.