

**BILL NO.**

Introduced by

Senator Boschee

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the Theodore Roosevelt national park working group; to provide a  
3 report; and to provide an appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-60 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Theodore Roosevelt national park working group - Executive committee - Duties -**  
8 **Report.**

9 1. The Theodore Roosevelt national park working group is created and consists of:

- 10 a. The majority leader of the house of representatives, or the leader's designee;  
11 b. The minority leader of the house of representatives, or the leader's designee;  
12 c. One representative of the governor's office, appointed by the governor;  
13 d. One representative of the department of natural resources, appointed by the  
14 governor;  
15 e. One representative of the division of tourism, appointed by the governor;  
16 f. The agriculture commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;  
17 g. One representative of the Medora city council;  
18 h. One representative of the the Billings County commission;  
19 i. One representative of the Medora chamber of commerce;  
20 j. One representative of the Medora foundation;  
21 k. One representative of any nonprofit group established to protect the horses in the  
22 Theodore Roosevelt national park;  
23 l. One representative of the Dickinson state university with expertise in genetics;  
24 m. One representative of the university of North Dakota with expertise in genetics;

- 1           n. One representative of the North Dakota state university;
- 2           o. One representative of the national park service; and
- 3           p. One representative appointed by the Indian affairs commissioner.
- 4        2. The working group shall:
- 5           a. In cooperation with the national park service and the United States government,
- 6                 manage the population of wild horses in the Theodore Roosevelt national park to
- 7                 remain above two hundred horses;
- 8           b. Create a management plan to support and maintain the wild horses within the
- 9                 Theodore Roosevelt national park;
- 10          c. Promote the wild horses to benefit tourism and to make recommendations to the
- 11                 department;
- 12          d. Assist the department in carrying out activities to educate the public;
- 13          e. Seek qualified volunteers to assist with activities;
- 14          f. Maintain documentation and records regarding the wild horses;
- 15          g. Provide an annual report to the division of tourism regarding recommendations to
- 16                 preserve the long-term health and safety of the wild horses; and
- 17          h. Meet quarterly.
- 18        3. The working group may use management activities including birth control, removals,
- 19                 and permanent placement of horses after removal. All management activities must be
- 20                 humane and nonlethal.
- 21        4. The department may enter an agreement with the national park service to implement
- 22                 this section.
- 23        5. The department may enter an agreement with a private entity to address any issues
- 24                 related to the wild horses in the Theodore Roosevelt national park.

25        **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - THEODORE**

26 **ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK WORKING GROUP.** There is appropriated out of any moneys  
27 in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,000,000, or  
28 so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of commerce for the purpose of  
29 administering the Theodore Roosevelt national park working group, for the biennium beginning  
30 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.