



Legislative Meeting

Friday, March 28, 2025, at 11:30 AM

3rd Floor Executive Conference Room, City Hall (10 3rd Ave SW)

Any person needing special accommodation for the meeting is requested to notify the City Clerk's office at 857-4752.

1. LEGISLATIVE TOPICS DISCUSSION

A quorum of the City Council may be in attendance at a meeting discussing legislative topics.

1.1. LEGISLATIVE TOPICS DISCUSSION

Bill Link	Name	Last Action	Action Date	Summary	State Link
HB1106	A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of transportation for nonfixed route transit program grants.	Senate Appropriations Executive Session (10:15:00 3/28/2025 Harvest)	3/28/2025	This bill provides a \$2,000,000 appropriation from the state's general fund to the North Dakota Department of Transportation specifically for grants supporting nonfixed route public transportation providers during the 2025-2027 biennium. Nonfixed route public transportation typically refers to flexible transit services that do not follow a predetermined, fixed route or schedule, such as demand-responsive transit, paratransit, or rural transit services that can adjust their routes based on passenger needs. The bill ensures funding is available to support transportation services in areas or for populations that might not be well-served by traditional fixed-route public transit systems, helping to improve mobility for communities across North Dakota. The appropriation is contingent and will only use up to the full \$2,000,000 as necessary during the specified two-year period.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1106.html
HB1303	The prohibition of sanctuary city policies and to create the sanctuary compliance fund; to provide a penalty; and to provide a continuing appropriation.	Committee Hearing 09:00 (State and Local Government)	3/28/2025	This bill amends North Dakota law to prohibit "sanctuary city" policies across the state, which are local government practices that limit cooperation with federal immigration enforcement. The bill prevents state agencies, political subdivisions, and higher education institutions from adopting policies that: restrict communication with federal immigration officials about an individual's immigration status, grant unauthorized immigrants special rights or protections, violate federal immigration cooperation laws, prevent law enforcement from asking about a person's citizenship status, or impede the transfer of undocumented immigrants to federal custody. If a political subdivision is found to have a sanctuary policy, the state attorney general can investigate, issue an opinion, and direct the state treasurer to withhold funding from that jurisdiction. The withheld funds will be deposited into a new "sanctuary compliance fund," which can be redistributed to compliant political subdivisions. The bill provides a process for local governments to appeal the attorney general's findings or provide evidence that they have discontinued sanctuary policies. Any local policy found to violate these provisions will be automatically declared void, emphasizing the state's intent to ensure full cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1303.html
HB1487	A BILL for an Act to authorize the department of transportation to transfer real property to the office of management and budget; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an exemption.	Senate Appropriations Executive Session (10:45:00 3/28/2025 Harvest)	3/28/2025	This bill authorizes the North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT) to transfer approximately 1.25 acres of land in Ward County to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The bill specifically exempts this land transfer from certain existing statutory requirements about property transfers. Additionally, the bill appropriates \$4.9 million from the Strategic Investment and Improvements Fund to the OMB for constructing a facility in Minot that will be leased to other state agencies. The funding is designated as a one-time appropriation for the 2025-2027 biennium, with an exemption allowing the unused funds to be carried forward into the 2027-2029 biennium. This means the OMB will have flexibility in spending the allocated funds beyond the typical state budgeting restrictions, allowing for potential delays or phased construction of the Minot facility.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1487.html
HB1026	The administration of the state bonding fund; and to provide a continuing appropriation.	Committee Hearing 09:30 (Industry and Business)	3/31/2025	This bill transfers the administration of the state bonding fund from the insurance commissioner to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), making several key changes to how public employee and official bonds are managed. The bill creates a continuing appropriation for the state bonding fund, allowing OMB to pay claims, contract for administrative services, and cover investigation and reinsurance costs. It establishes new procedures for bond coverage, including requiring state agencies and political subdivisions to apply for bonding at least once per biennium, with a minimum bond assessment of \$2.50 per public employee per year. The bill adjusts the fund's financial management, specifying that assessments will be collected when the fund balance falls below \$3 million and waived when it exceeds that amount. The legislation also modifies claim filing processes, investigation procedures, and the options for additional bond coverage. Additionally, the bill repeals several existing sections of law related to the state bonding fund, streamlining the administrative framework and shifting primary management responsibilities to the Office of Management and Budget.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1026.html
HB1027	The administration of the state fire and tornado fund; to provide for a legislative management study; and to provide a continuing appropriation.	Senate Industry and Business Executive Session (10:30:00 3/31/2025 Fort Union)	3/31/2025	This bill transfers the administration of the state fire and tornado fund from the insurance commissioner to the office of management and budget, making several significant changes to how state agencies, political subdivisions, and winter shows obtain property insurance. The bill creates a continuing appropriation for the fund, establishes new procedures for assessing and collecting insurance payments, and allows the office to contract for administrative services and insurance broker support. Key provisions include requiring state agencies to obtain replacement cost appraisals every six years, setting a minimum fund balance of twelve million dollars, and establishing procedures for handling unreasonably hazardous risks, loss assessments, and reinsurance. The bill also provides a mechanism for issuing anticipation bonds or borrowing from the Bank of North Dakota if the fund balance drops below two million dollars due to catastrophes. Additionally, the legislation directs the legislative management to study the potential removal of political subdivisions from the state fire and tornado fund during the 2025-26 interim, examining the feasibility, statutory changes, and potential premium impacts of such a move.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1027.html
HB1537	Service agreement protection of service during the term of the loan.	Committee Hearing 09:00 (Industry and Business)	3/31/2025	This bill amends Section 6-09.4-22 of the North Dakota Century Code to provide broader protections for political subdivisions that have received loans from state agencies for infrastructure improvements. The bill eliminates specific references to "water service" and expands the protection to apply to any service provided by a political subdivision that has been financed through a loan from the public finance authority or another state agency. Under the new provisions, a political subdivision cannot have its service curtailed or limited if its service area is incorporated into another political subdivision's boundaries or if a private franchise for similar service is granted. The political subdivision is not required to obtain new franchises, licenses, or permits to continue serving its area during the loan term. The bill also introduces new language allowing political subdivisions to negotiate service agreements, but such agreements must include the public finance authority or state agency as a party and include safeguards to protect outstanding bond payments. Additionally, the bill specifies that only the public finance authority or financing state agency can enforce these provisions, and it provides that any agreements made before January 1, 2025, that violate these terms are voidable at the option of the financing agency. The bill applies retroactively to July 31, 1997, effectively providing long-standing protection for political subdivisions' service agreements.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1537.html
SB2251	Audits conducted by the state auditor and charges for audits.	House Appropriations Executive Session (09:00:00 3/31/2025 Roughrider)	3/31/2025	This bill makes several changes to North Dakota's laws regarding state audits and the state auditor's responsibilities. The bill modifies provisions related to audit charging practices, specifically removing previous language about mandatory charges to agencies for audits and instead allowing more flexible billing practices. It reduces the percentage of progress payments that political subdivisions must retain from twenty percent to five percent when paying for an audit. The bill also increases the threshold for annual reporting for occupational and professional boards from \$200,000 to \$2 million in annual receipts, allowing smaller boards to submit annual reports instead of biennial audits. Additionally, the bill clarifies the state auditor's authority to charge for federal government audit work, with fees to be paid from the audited agency's federal funds and deposited into the general fund. The bill also introduces a new provision requiring the state auditor to refer open records requests related to submitted information back to the original submitting agency, effectively transferring the responsibility for responding to such requests. These changes aim to streamline audit processes, provide more flexibility in audit reporting, and clarify the state auditor's responsibilities and fee structures.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2251.html

HB1032	Ordinance violations and municipal judges.	Senate Judiciary Executive Session (11:06:00 3/10/2025 Peace Garden)	3/10/2025	This bill introduces comprehensive reforms to municipal courts in North Dakota, establishing a new legal framework for their operation, jurisdiction, and procedures. The bill creates a detailed chapter of law governing municipal courts, specifying that cities can establish these courts as part of the state's unified judicial system, with oversight from the state Supreme Court. The legislation outlines specific requirements for municipal judges, including qualifications based on city population size (with judges in cities over 5,000 required to be licensed attorneys), and provides clear guidelines for court administration, including provisions for joint municipal courts, court facilities, and staffing. The bill also defines the jurisdiction of municipal courts, limiting their ability to hear certain types of cases such as serious traffic offenses, domestic violence cases, and criminal offenses involving juveniles. Additionally, the bill establishes procedures for transferring cases to district court, handling appeals, and managing indigent defense services. Key changes include standardizing court processes, clarifying judicial responsibilities, and creating more consistent rules for municipal court operations across North Dakota. The bill also repeals existing sections of law related to ordinance violations and municipal judges, effectively replacing the old legal framework with this new, more comprehensive set of regulations.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1032.html
HB1534	Limitations on taxable valuation increases without voter approval; and to provide an effective date.	Senate Finance and Taxation Executive (09:43:00 3/10/2025 Fort Totten)	3/10/2025	This bill proposes a new law that would limit annual increases in property tax valuations to no more than 3% per year for any parcel of taxable property, with exceptions for new improvements to the property. Under this proposed legislation, if a property's taxable value would increase by more than 3%, the additional increase can only be implemented through a ballot measure approved by a majority of qualified voters in the taxing district during a statewide general or primary election. The proposed increases can be approved for up to four taxable years at a time, and cities or counties would be prohibited from modifying or overriding this limitation through home rule authority. The bill would take effect for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024, meaning it would first apply to property tax assessments in 2025. The primary goal of this legislation appears to be providing property owners with protection against rapid increases in property tax valuations and giving voters more direct control over potential tax increases.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1534.html
HB1194	False information or false reports to law enforcement; and to provide a penalty.	Committee Hearing 02:30 (Judiciary)	3/11/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's existing law regarding false information or false reports to law enforcement by making a few key changes. Currently, an individual can be charged with a class A misdemeanor if they knowingly provide false information to a law enforcement officer that could interfere with an investigation or materially mislead the officer, or if they falsely report a crime of violence or emergency incident that did not actually occur. The bill modifies the language from "person" to "individual" throughout the statute and adds a new provision requiring non-duty law enforcement officers who have probable cause to suspect someone has provided a false report to report that information to the county state's attorney. The term "security official" is defined as a public servant responsible for handling emergencies involving public safety, with a slight modification to the language describing their role. These changes aim to clarify and potentially strengthen the existing legal framework for addressing false reporting to law enforcement in North Dakota.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1194.html
HB1575	Legacy fund definitions, the legacy earnings fund, and the primary residence credit; to provide an appropriation; to provide for a transfer; to provide an effective date; and to provide an expiration date.	Senate Finance and Taxation Hearing (09:00:00 3/11/2025 Fort Totten)	3/11/2025	This bill introduces several significant changes to North Dakota's tax and fund management systems. It creates a new legacy earnings fund that will receive distributions from the state's legacy fund, with a specific allocation process that first directs funds to debt service payments and highway distribution, with the remaining balance going to a new legacy property tax relief fund. The bill increases homestead tax exemptions by raising income thresholds and expanding relief, raising the income limit for full exemption from \$40,000 to \$50,000 and increasing the maximum refund for renters from \$400 to \$600. Additionally, it establishes a new property valuation reduction system where residential properties will receive a 2.75% reduction in taxable value, while agricultural and commercial properties will receive a 1.5% reduction. The bill also introduces a limitation on property taxable valuation increases, capping annual increases at 3% unless improvements have been made, and allows taxing districts to seek voter approval for excess levy authority. The state will reimburse local taxing districts for these valuation reductions, with funding coming from a combination of general fund and legacy earnings fund sources. The bill sunsets some existing provisions related to the legacy fund and primary residence credits, with most tax-related changes becoming effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1575.html
SB2397	The definition of non-oil-producing county for purposes of the flexible transportation fund, legacy earnings township aid fund, municipal infrastructure fund, and county and township infrastructure fund; to provide an effective date; and to declare an emergency.	Committee Hearing 10:30 (Finance and Taxation)	3/11/2025	This bill amends the definition of a "non-oil-producing county" in four different sections of North Dakota law, changing the criteria from receiving less than \$5 million in funding to having average annual oil production of fewer than 10 million barrels over a three-year period. Specifically, the bill modifies sections related to the flexible transportation fund, legacy earnings township aid fund, municipal infrastructure fund, and county and township infrastructure fund. The new definition will be used to determine county eligibility for certain funding allocations, with the calculation based on oil production data from the three years preceding the start of each biennial budget cycle. The bill is set to become effective on July 1, 2025, and is declared an emergency measure, which typically means it will take effect immediately upon passage. This change appears to provide a more precise and production-based method of defining non-oil-producing counties, potentially impacting how infrastructure and transportation funds are distributed across North Dakota counties.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2397.html
SB2201	The primary residence credit; to provide for application; to provide a retroactive effective date; to provide an expiration date; and to declare an emergency.	Filed with Secretary Of State 02/18	3/12/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's primary residence tax credit law to provide more detailed definitions and clarify eligibility requirements. Specifically, the bill expands the definition of "owned" and "primary residence" to include situations involving trusts, allowing property owners who hold a beneficial interest in a qualifying trust to claim the \$500 tax credit. The bill defines a "qualifying trust" as one where the trustor or beneficiary has the right to use and occupy the property as their primary residence rent-free, and establishes conditions for how and when this applies. The credit can only be claimed for one primary residence, cannot exceed the property tax due, and must be applied after other exemptions. Individuals who are temporarily absent due to medical confinement can still qualify for the credit, provided the residence is not rented to another person. To claim the credit, applicants must file an application with the tax commissioner by April 1st each year. The bill is retroactively effective for the first two taxable years after December 31, 2023, and includes a provision allowing taxpayers who qualify for the credit in 2024 to file an abatement claim by May 1, 2025, to receive a refund equal to the credit amount.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2201.html
SB2224	The abolition of the gaming commission and the authorization of the attorney general to administer and regulate gaming.	Committee Hearing 10:00 (Judiciary)	3/12/2025	This bill modifies North Dakota's gaming regulations by replacing the state gaming commission with the attorney general as the primary regulatory body for gaming activities. The bill eliminates the existing five-member gaming commission appointed by the governor and instead transfers the rulemaking and regulatory responsibilities directly to the attorney general. The attorney general will continue to adopt rules for administering and regulating the gaming industry, including establishing methods for game conduct, setting recordkeeping standards, requiring tax returns from gaming organizations, defining business practices for distributors and manufacturers, setting equipment and quality standards for gaming devices, and ensuring that gaming proceeds are used for appropriate purposes such as educational, charitable, and public-spirited uses. The bill also maintains the core regulatory objectives of protecting public interest, ensuring fair and honest games, collecting appropriate fees and taxes, and preventing unlawful gambling activities. This change represents a streamlining of the gaming oversight process by centralizing regulatory authority with the attorney general.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2224.html
SB2069	Publication requirements.	House Political Subdivisions Hearing (09:00:00 3/14/2025 327B)	3/14/2025	This bill creates a new provision in North Dakota law that allows government units to file published notices directly with the secretary of state when they are legally required to publish a notice in a newspaper. The bill provides an alternative method of fulfilling publication requirements if a newspaper fails to publish the legally mandated notice. Specifically, if a newspaper does not publish a required notice, the government unit can file the notice with the secretary of state, and this filing will be considered sufficient to meet the publication requirement, unless a specific law states otherwise. This change provides a backup mechanism to ensure important government notices are made publicly available, even if local newspapers do not comply with publishing requirements.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2069.html

HB1226	Wearing a mask in a public place.	Committee Hearing 11:00 (Judiciary)	3/17/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's existing law regarding wearing masks in public places by adding a new provision that makes it a criminal offense to wear a mask or face covering with the intent to conceal one's identity while congregating with other masked individuals, specifically when a law enforcement officer requests that individuals unmask. The bill maintains existing prohibitions against wearing masks with intent to intimidate, threaten, abuse, harass, or evade identification during a criminal offense. An important exception is added to clarify that this new provision does not apply to traditional masked gatherings like Halloween celebrations or masquerade parties. Violation of this law would be classified as a class A misdemeanor, which typically carries potential penalties of up to one year in jail and/or a fine. The amendment appears designed to address potential concerns about group anonymity in public spaces while preserving cultural and celebratory mask-wearing traditions. https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1226.html
SB2323	Oil and gas gross production tax allocations and the state share of oil and gas tax allocations; to provide a continuing appropriation; to provide an exemption; to provide an effective date; and to provide an expiration date.	House Finance and Taxation Hearing (10:00-00 3/17/2025 327E)	3/17/2025	This bill makes several changes to how North Dakota allocates oil and gas gross production tax revenues, with key provisions including extending the current tax allocation framework from 2027 to 2037, creating a new energy impact grant fund that will receive up to \$20 million per fiscal year, and modifying how those funds will be distributed to hub cities (Williston, Dickinson, and Minot). Specifically, the bill establishes that 73.88% of the energy impact grant fund will go to Williston, 15.66% to Dickinson, and 10.46% to Minot, with the requirement that these cities use the grants for debt repayments or expenses related to oil and gas development impacts. The bill also adjusts state revenue deposits, increasing the initial deposit to the state general fund from \$230 million to \$250 million and making corresponding adjustments to other fund allocations. Additionally, the bill provides some temporary exemptions for allocations to the North Dakota outdoor heritage fund and oil and gas research fund, limiting their funding to \$7.5 million and \$17.5 million respectively during a specific period. These changes aim to provide continued support for communities impacted by oil and gas development while maintaining the state's complex tax revenue distribution system. https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2323.html
SB2160	Health insurance benefits coverage provided by the uniform group insurance program; to provide an appropriation; to provide for a statement of legislative intent; and to provide an effective date.	House Industry, Business and Labor Hearing (10:45-00 3/18/2025 327C)	3/18/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's uniform group insurance program to clarify and update health insurance coverage definitions and provisions for state employees, political subdivisions, and retirees. The bill modifies key definitions, including introducing the term "nongrandfathered health plan" and expanding the description of health insurance benefits coverage to align with federal healthcare regulations. It allows political subdivisions to join the uniform group insurance program under specific conditions, such as a minimum 60-month participation requirement, and provides flexibility for retirees to join the program under certain circumstances. The bill also includes a \$4.3 million appropriation to help cover potential health insurance premium increases, with \$1.9 million coming from the general fund and \$2.4 million from federal and special funds. The legislation is intended to help state agencies manage health insurance costs and provide more comprehensive and flexible coverage options for public employees and retirees. Most provisions of the bill will become effective on January 1, 2027, giving state agencies and the public employees retirement system time to prepare for the changes. https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2160.html
SB2307	Obscenity control; to provide for a report to the legislative management; and to provide a penalty.	Rereferred to Appropriations	3/18/2025	This bill addresses obscenity control and library content in North Dakota by establishing new guidelines for public libraries and school districts regarding explicit sexual material. The legislation redefines obscene material using a "reasonable adult" standard and creates a comprehensive framework for managing library collections, particularly those accessible to minors. Public libraries and school districts are now required to develop policies by January 2026 to review and potentially relocate materials deemed explicitly sexual, ensuring they are not easily accessible to minors. The bill mandates that digital and online library resources for kindergarten through 12th-grade students must have safety policies and technology protection measures that prevent access to obscene or sexually explicit content. Additionally, the legislation introduces a review process where individuals can request a state's attorney's opinion if they believe a library or school district is not complying with these regulations. If violations are found, entities may face financial penalties, with funds potentially being withheld by the state treasurer or superintendent of public instruction until compliance is achieved. The bill also provides mechanisms for reporting issues, reviewing materials, and ensuring that library resources are age-appropriate and consistent with community standards. https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2307.html
HB1033	Concurrent federal jurisdiction on military installations.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/14	3/19/2025	This bill establishes a process for the state of North Dakota to accept concurrent legislative jurisdiction over United States military installations within the state's boundaries. Under this legislation, the governor can accept a request from a military installation's principal officer to share legislative jurisdiction with the federal government, but only after the request meets specific requirements, such as providing details about the installation's location, the requesting official's authority, and the purpose of the jurisdiction request. The bill stipulates that the governor's acceptance must document each element of the request and submit key documents to the secretary of state for record-keeping. Importantly, the state will not incur or assume liability from this jurisdictional arrangement, and after establishing concurrent jurisdiction, state agencies and political subdivisions may enter reciprocal agreements with federal agencies to define their respective duties. This type of legislation allows for more collaborative governance and clearer legal frameworks on military installations, ensuring that both state and federal authorities can effectively manage and oversee these properties. https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1033.html
HB1043	The vice chairman of the state water commission.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/14	3/19/2025	This bill amends North Dakota state water Section dating)08, which concerns how the stets watter control Rather conducts him. Those. thelyh the applied law specifies datingthat the law framework that the deemed Governor shall be dating chairman dating cha., the that the Commission would select a dating member to among itself to dating ofating as vice the dating chairman chairman. However the updated bill dating proposes dating to clarrthe language specifying dating the the the Governor shall dating be dating the dating, instead permitting dating more dating dating in dating Commission leadership. dating Specifically, the dating new dating language dating indicates that dating dating the Governor dating dates their dates appointed shall dating preside dating at dating all dating Commission dating meetings, dating and dates the dating their date dating absence, or dating disability, date dating vice dating chairman shall date dating preside dating dating bill essentially provides more procedural dating clarity dating about dating meeting dating leadership dating and dating datingency dating dating planningining the to primary dating leadership.dating https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1043.html
HB1168	Adjustments to state aid payments, legacy fund definitions, and a legacy earnings fund; and to provide an effective date.	Senate Finance and Taxation Executive Session (14:30:00 3/19/2025 Fort Totten)	3/19/2025	This bill makes several significant changes to North Dakota's state aid payments, legacy fund management, and property tax levies. The bill establishes a new legacy earnings fund that will receive distributions from the legacy fund every two years, with a specified allocation process that includes funding for debt service, tax relief, highway infrastructure, state tuition, and other general fund and strategic investment purposes. For school districts, the bill reduces the maximum general fund mill levy from seventy to fifty mills and adds a new optional ten-mill levy for educational services. The bill also introduces a new limitation on property tax levies for most taxing districts (excluding school districts), restricting annual increases to no more than 3% without voter approval. Additionally, the bill modifies the state school aid funding formula, particularly for tuition calculations and mill levy deductions, and makes various technical changes to how legacy fund earnings are managed and distributed. The changes aim to provide property tax relief, manage state fund distributions more strategically, and adjust school funding mechanisms, with most provisions becoming effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024. https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1168.html
HB1281	Motor vehicle fuel tax, special fuels tax, and aviation fuel tax refunds for fuels purchased by fire departments; and to provide an effective date.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/14	3/19/2025	This bill amends three sections of the North Dakota Century Code to expand tax refund eligibility for fuel purchases by fire departments. Currently, only emergency medical services operations licensed under chapter 23-27 can receive tax refunds for motor vehicle, special, and aviation fuel purchases. The bill adds fire departments to this refund provision, allowing them to apply to the tax commissioner for refunds on fuel taxes paid for motor vehicle, special, and aviation fuels used by the fire department. To qualify, a fire department must be a department or district that has filed and received approval for a certificate of existence under section 18-04-02. The bill specifies that these fuel tax refunds are not subject to reduction for deposit in the agricultural products utilization fund or the agricultural research fund. The amendments are identical across motor vehicle, special, and aviation fuel tax statutes, and the bill will take effect for taxable events occurring after June 30, 2025, providing fire departments with a new mechanism to recover fuel-related expenses. https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1281.html

HB1329	A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a government spending database; and to provide an appropriation.	Committee Hearing 10:30 (Education)	3/19/2025	This bill proposes to establish a comprehensive government spending database and conduct a legislative study on its implementation. The bill requires the state treasurer to create an online, free-access database that includes detailed expenditure information from various government entities, such as budget units, political subdivisions, school districts, and higher education institutions. The database would provide extensive financial transparency by capturing specific details for each expenditure, including payment amount, date, recipient name, paying entity, and for educational materials, additional specifics like curriculum descriptions and textbook details. The database would feature advanced functionalities like search capabilities, data aggregation tools, download options, and anonymous salary information. Additionally, the bill mandates that the superintendent of public instruction contract for training services to help school officials understand and comply with the new database requirements. The legislative management will conduct an interim study during 2025-26 to evaluate the feasibility of this database, with a report and potential legislation to be presented to the seventieth legislative assembly. The bill includes a one-time appropriation of \$97,000 to the legislative council for consulting services to assist with the study, with the database-related provisions set to become effective on July 1, 2026.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1329.html
SB2083	The definition of a sensitive image.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/14	3/19/2025	This bill amends the North Dakota Century Code to define and establish the handling of "sensitive images" in public records. Specifically, the bill introduces a new definition of "sensitive image" as an image that depicts an exposed intimate body part, a gruesome injury, a deceased individual, or a minor. The legislation further stipulates that such sensitive images are classified as "exempt records," meaning public entities have the discretion to withhold these images from public access unless another law provides different guidance. By creating this classification, the bill aims to protect the privacy and dignity of individuals who might be depicted in such sensitive images, while still maintaining flexibility for public entities in managing their records. The exemption allows government agencies to decide whether to release these types of images on a case-by-case basis, preventing automatic public disclosure of potentially traumatic or intrusive visual content.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2083.html
HB1311	Volunteer emergency responder recruitment and retention.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/18	3/20/2025	This bill directs the legislative management to conduct a comprehensive study during the 2025-26 interim period focusing on volunteer emergency responder recruitment and retention challenges. The study will explore issues facing various types of emergency volunteers, including firefighters, disaster volunteers, and community emergency response team members. The legislative management is required to gather input from a diverse range of stakeholders such as disaster emergency organizations, nonprofit associations, law enforcement representatives, emergency medical service providers, and state and local agencies. The goal is to identify effective strategies for encouraging volunteerism and addressing the current obstacles to recruitment and retention of emergency volunteers. Upon completion of the study, the legislative management will be expected to report its findings and recommendations, along with any proposed legislation, to the seventieth legislative assembly, with the ultimate aim of improving volunteer emergency response capabilities in North Dakota.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1311.html
SB2045	A bidding exception for water supply funds and contents of advertisement for public improvement projects.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/18	3/20/2025	This bill modifies two sections of North Dakota law regarding public improvement project bidding requirements. The first section removes the specific exemption for municipal, rural, and industrial water supply projects from contractor licensing requirements, which previously allowed bidders on these projects more flexibility in obtaining licensing. The second section eliminates language specific to water supply projects related to contractor licensing, removing the provision that previously allowed bidders on such projects 20 days after being identified as the lowest responsible bidder to obtain a full contractor's license. The bill standardizes bidding and licensing requirements across different types of public improvement projects, ensuring that all bidders must have appropriate licensing at the time of bid submission, with specific exceptions remaining for bids submitted to the department of transportation, public service commission, and for federal aid highway funds. These changes aim to create more uniform and consistent bidding processes for public contracts in North Dakota by streamlining licensing requirements and removing project-specific exceptions.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2045.html
SB2074	Municipal infrastructure fund reporting requirements.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/18	3/20/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's reporting requirements for municipal infrastructure grants by adding a population threshold and clarifying reporting procedures. Specifically, only cities with a population of at least 1,000 that receive infrastructure grants will now be required to submit a report to the state treasurer by November 30th of each even-numbered year, starting in 2022. The report must detail the amount of grant funding received and spent, and provide a description of infrastructure projects completed using those funds. The state treasurer will notify cities of this reporting requirement by November 1st each even-numbered year and can grant a 15-day extension upon request. Cities that fail to submit the report on time or in the correct format will be ineligible to receive future grants for two years. Additionally, if a financial audit reveals that a city used grant funds inconsistently with requirements, the state treasurer can reduce future grants by the amount improperly spent. The state treasurer will also make these reports publicly available on their website, promoting transparency in how municipal infrastructure grants are used.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2074.html
SB2110	The certification and penalization of water distribution and wastewater system operators; and to provide a penalty.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/18	3/20/2025	This bill modifies North Dakota's regulations for water distribution and wastewater system operators by making several key changes: it shifts the annual certification expiration date from July to January, allows the department to establish more flexible fee structures for certification based on actual administrative costs instead of fixed amounts, permits the department to use third-party services for examination preparation and administration, and strengthens penalty provisions for violations. Specifically, the bill introduces graduated penalty structures, including civil penalties up to \$5,000 per day for violations, potential class A misdemeanor charges for willful violations or false statements, and establishes a new administrative procedure for rule adoption and appeals related to water and wastewater system operator certifications. The bill also maintains the department's existing responsibilities for promoting certification programs, distributing applications, maintaining operator records, and scheduling training programs, while providing more administrative flexibility and clearer enforcement mechanisms for regulating water and wastewater system operators.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2110.html
SB2141	A change in the purpose of use of a conditional or perfected water permit.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/18	3/20/2025	This bill amends North Dakota law to provide more flexibility for water permit holders who want to change the purpose of their water use. Specifically, the bill allows a water permit holder to modify the purpose of a conditional or perfected water permit without losing its original priority date, provided the change is approved by the state Department of Water Resources. The bill establishes two scenarios under which such a change can be approved: first, if the new use is considered a "superior use" according to existing water rights priority rules, and second, if the change is for livestock use or fish, wildlife, and recreation purposes for a reservoir that does not involve withdrawing water. The application for such a change must be processed in the same manner as a conditional water permit application, and the department can only approve the change if it will not negatively impact the water rights of other users. This modification aims to provide water permit holders with more options for utilizing their water resources while maintaining protections for existing water rights.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2141.html
SB2332	Grant funding for emergency services and public safety.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/18	3/20/2025	This bill directs the North Dakota Legislative Management to conduct a comprehensive study during the 2025-26 interim period focusing on potential grant funding for emergency services and public safety. The study will explore several key aspects, including determining the appropriate amount of grant funding needed, identifying potential funding sources, defining which entities would be eligible to receive grants, specifying the types of expenses that could be reimbursed through the grant program, selecting the most suitable agency to administer the grants, and considering the establishment of a grant program oversight committee. The Legislative Management will be required to report their findings and recommendations, along with any necessary proposed legislation, to the 70th Legislative Assembly. This study represents a proactive approach to enhancing emergency services and public safety funding by thoroughly examining the potential structure and implementation of a grant program before formally establishing it.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2332.html

SB2340	A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study to evaluate the evolving fire service operational and response needs of the state.	Committee Hearing 09:00 (Energy and Natural Resources)	3/20/2025	This bill authorizes the legislative management to conduct a comprehensive study of fire services in North Dakota during the 2025-26 interim, focusing on evaluating and improving the state's fire emergency response capabilities. The study will explore multiple critical areas including how existing state resources can be better coordinated for fire emergency services, the potential creation of regional response teams, establishing standardized training and response authorities, and evaluating current firefighting staffing and capabilities. The bill specifically requires examining issues such as cross-training opportunities, emergency response protocols, minimum training requirements, firefighting benefits, equipment needs, and structural considerations. Additionally, the study will investigate ways to restructure fiscal support for fire services to reduce dependence on local property taxes and identify necessary legal and administrative changes to implement a unified fire service model. The legislative management is mandated to consult with various stakeholders like the state fire marshal, North Dakota firefighter's association, forest service, emergency services department, fire chiefs' association, and career and technical education department. The study's findings and recommendations, along with potential implementing legislation, will be reported to the 70th legislative assembly, potentially setting the stage for significant improvements in the state's fire emergency response system.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2340.html
SB2371	Rotary traffic islands.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/18	3/20/2025	This bill amends Section 39-10-16 of the North Dakota Century Code related to traffic regulations for one-way roadways and rotary traffic islands. The key changes modify rules for vehicles traveling around and exiting rotary traffic islands (circular intersections designed to manage traffic flow). Specifically, the bill removes the word "not" and "first" from the existing language, which appears to alter the requirements for how vehicles can exit a rotary traffic island. The bill maintains the existing requirement that vehicles must drive to the right of a rotary traffic island and that drivers must signal their intention to exit the island. By removing the restrictive language, the bill seems to provide more flexibility for drivers when navigating and exiting rotary traffic islands, potentially making the traffic regulation less stringent than the previous version of the law.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2371.html
HB1307	Supersession of state election laws in home rule counties and cities.	Committee Hearing 09:00 (State and Local Government)	3/21/2025	This bill amends North Dakota state law to clarify and limit the ability of home rule counties and cities to supersede state election laws. Specifically, the bill adds language to several sections of the state code that explicitly states that any ordinances enacted by home rule counties or cities regarding elections that conflict with state law are void. The bill maintains the broad powers of home rule entities to govern their own affairs in most matters, but creates a clear prohibition on modifying state election regulations. The changes apply to both county and city home rule charters, ensuring a consistent approach to election governance across different local government structures. The bill preserves the fundamental principle of home rule - allowing local governments significant autonomy in managing their affairs - while establishing a bright-line rule that election procedures must follow state guidelines. This ensures uniformity in election processes and prevents potential local variations that could create confusion or inconsistency in how elections are conducted across the state.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1307.html
HB1139	A sales tax exemption and a motor vehicle excise tax exemption for fire departments; and to provide an effective date.	Senate Finance and Taxation Executive Session (08:21:00 3/24/2025 Fort Totten)	3/24/2025	This bill creates a sales tax and motor vehicle excise tax exemption for fire departments in North Dakota. Specifically, the bill exempts gross receipts from sales when made to a fire department for the purpose of providing fire protection services, and exempts motor vehicles acquired by or leased to fire departments for fire protection services. The term "fire department" is defined as a fire department or fire district that has filed and received approval for a certificate of existence under section 18-04-02 of the North Dakota Century Code. This means only officially recognized fire departments would qualify for the tax exemptions. The bill will take effect for taxable events occurring after June 30, 2025, giving local fire departments a financial benefit by reducing their tax burden when purchasing equipment, vehicles, and other necessary items for providing fire protection services to their communities.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1139.html
HB1266	The property tax credit for disabled veterans; and to provide an effective date.	Senate Finance and Taxation Executive Session (08:24:00 3/24/2025 Fort Totten)	3/24/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's property tax credit for disabled veterans by increasing the taxable valuation threshold from \$8,100 to \$9,000 and making several clarifying modifications. The bill allows disabled veterans with a service-connected disability rating of 50% or higher, or those with an extra-schedular rating bringing their total disability to 100%, to receive a property tax credit proportional to their disability percentage on their homestead. Surviving spouses of such veterans can also qualify, receiving a 100% credit if they receive dependency and indemnity compensation. The bill adds definitions for "child" and "parent" and adjusts provisions for co-owned properties, specifying that veterans can receive credit only for their proportional interest when the homestead is co-owned with someone other than a spouse, parent, or child. The legislation maintains existing processes for applying for the credit, including filing an initial affidavit with the county auditor and providing certification from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The bill will take effect for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024, ensuring that disabled veterans and their surviving spouses can benefit from the expanded property tax credit in the upcoming tax year.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1266.html
HB1572	Park district bonding authority without a vote, reporting of legislative tax relief information, and delivery and contents of the real estate tax statement; to provide for a legislative management study; and to provide for a legislative management report.	Senate Finance and Taxation Executive Session (08:40:00 3/24/2025 Fort Totten)	3/24/2025	This bill encompasses several key modifications to North Dakota tax and financial regulations. It increases park district bonding authority by allowing districts to issue up to one percent of their assessed valuation in bonds, with a maximum of \$15 million, without requiring voter approval. The bill creates a new uniform taxing district financial reporting system, requiring the tax commissioner to develop a standardized method for collecting and reporting financial and property tax data from taxing districts by January 1, 2026. It also modifies real estate tax statements to include more detailed, color-coded information about tax levies, including three-year historical comparisons and graphical representations of tax distributions. Additionally, the bill establishes a legislative tax reform and relief advisory committee to study historical tax relief and review recent tax reform legislation. The bill repeals certain existing levy authorities, such as the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District levy, and provides state reimbursement for these repealed levies. Lastly, it mandates a comprehensive study of tax-exempt properties, requiring the tax commissioner to compile detailed data on such properties and submit a report to the legislative management by July 1, 2026.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1572.html
SB2218	A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the insurance commissioner for a North Dakota firefighter's association grant; and to declare an emergency.	House Appropriations Executive Session (11:41:00 3/24/2025 Roughrider)	3/24/2025	I apologize, but the XML content you've provided appears to be incomplete or does not contain the specific details of the bill's provisions. Without the full text of the bill or the detailed legislative language, I cannot generate a comprehensive summary. From the bill title and government summary, I can only draft a very basic summary: This bill seeks to provide financial funding (an appropriation) to the North Dakota insurance commissioner specifically designated as a grant for the North Dakota Firefighter's Association. The bill also includes an emergency declaration, which likely means the funding or provisions would take effect immediately upon passage. For a more detailed summary, I would need to see the complete bill text, including the specific language being proposed, the exact amount of the appropriation, and any conditions or requirements associated with the grant.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2218.html
SB2310	Garnishments.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/20	3/24/2025	This bill amends three sections of North Dakota's garnishment laws, primarily focusing on updating the disclosure fee from \$25 to \$40 for garnishment proceedings. Specifically, the bill modifies how service can be made on state institutions, departments, or agencies by allowing service through the office of management and budget, and increasing the mandatory disclosure fee that must be tendered when a garnishment summons is served. The bill also adjusts the minimum judgment threshold, changing the language to clarify that no judgment can be rendered against a garnishee if the original judgment against the defendant is less than \$40, exclusive of costs. This means that if the original debt is under \$40, the garnishee (typically an employer or financial institution holding the defendant's assets) will be discharged from the garnishment proceeding. The changes appear to be administrative in nature, updating fee structures and clarifying legal language around garnishment processes in North Dakota.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2310.html

HB1138	Bonding elections.	Sent to Governor	3/25/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's law regarding bonding elections by modifying several key provisions related to how and when these elections are conducted. The bill increases the minimum time between the initial resolution and the election from 20 to 64 days, giving voters more time to consider the proposed bond. It restructures the existing law by adding numerical subsections for clarity and makes some technical changes to language about election procedures. The bill specifies that the election date, polling hours, and polling place must be the same as municipal elections, and requires the governing body to appoint election officials (one inspector, two judges, and two clerks) for each polling place. It also clarifies the process for filling election official vacancies, stating that remaining election officials can appoint a qualified elector if an official is absent or unable to serve. The overall intent appears to be providing more structure and consistency to the municipal bonding election process while ensuring proper representation and opportunity for voter input.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1138.html
HB1142	The statutory caps for liability of political subdivisions and the state; and to provide an effective date.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/24	3/25/2025	This bill amends two sections of the North Dakota Century Code related to liability limitations for political subdivisions and the state, primarily adjusting the monetary caps for damages in legal claims. Specifically, the bill increases the liability limits for both political subdivisions and the state from \$375,000 to \$468,750 per person, and from \$1 million to \$1,875,000 for claims arising from a single occurrence through June 30, 2026. After that date, the limits will change to \$500,000 per person and \$2 million for a single occurrence. The bill removes the previous annual incremental adjustments to these liability caps and establishes new fixed amounts. The legislation maintains existing provisions that protect political subdivisions and the state from liability in many circumstances, such as discretionary actions, public duties, and specific types of claims. These changes aim to update the state's liability framework, providing slightly higher compensation limits for potential legal claims while preserving significant protections for governmental entities.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1142.html
HB1158	The exempt status of records related to petitions in possession of the secretary of state.	Sent to Governor	3/25/2025	This bill creates a new provision in North Dakota law that establishes an exemption for certain petition-related records held by the secretary of state. Specifically, the bill makes records received by the secretary of state that are related to a petition to initiate or refer a measure confidential and exempt from public disclosure. These records will remain exempt until either the secretary of state has officially reviewed and determined the sufficiency of the petition (as outlined in section 16.1-01-10) or 35 days have passed since the secretary of state initially received the record, whichever occurs first. This means that during the initial review period, petition records will be kept private, which could protect the privacy of petition signers and prevent premature public scrutiny of potential ballot measures while they are being initially evaluated. The bill appears designed to provide a temporary confidentiality period for petition-related documents during their initial processing and review stage.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1158.html
HB1235	The agriculture infrastructure grant program.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/24	3/25/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's agriculture infrastructure grant program by modifying which local government entities can receive grants for road and bridge improvements. Previously, grants could be awarded to any political subdivisions, but now the grants will be specifically limited to counties, townships, or cities with populations of 1,500 residents or less. The grants can be used for two primary purposes: corridor improvements on city, county, and township roadways, and improvements to roads or bridges that provide access to value-added agriculture businesses. The agriculture commissioner will continue to award these grants in consultation with the director of the department of transportation, maintaining the core purpose of supporting infrastructure that facilitates agricultural economic development by improving transportation routes near agricultural businesses.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1235.html
HB1482	The requirements of a municipal bond election.	Senate Finance and Taxation Executive Session (09:43:00 3/25/2025 Fort Totten)	3/25/2025	This bill modifies North Dakota's laws regarding municipal bond elections by making several key changes to the process of issuing municipal bonds. The bill updates the requirements for municipalities to borrow money and issue bonds, clarifying that most bond issuances now require approval at a primary or general election with a 60% vote of qualified voters. The legislation provides several exceptions to this rule, such as allowing bond issuances without an election for specific purposes like highway projects, public building improvements, and emergency conditions. The bill also introduces a protest mechanism where property owners can challenge bond resolutions if protests are signed by property owners representing at least 5% of the municipality's total assessed property value. Additionally, the bill streamlines language around debt limits, specifying that municipalities cannot incur indebtedness exceeding 5% of their assessed property value, with provisions for cities and school districts to increase this limit through voter approval. The changes aim to provide more clarity and flexibility for local governments while maintaining voter oversight of municipal bond issuances.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1482.html
SB2009	A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the state fair association.	House Appropriations - Education and Environment Division Executive Session (15:30:00 3/25/2025 Prairie)	3/25/2025	This bill provides an appropriation to the North Dakota State Fair Association for the 2025-2027 biennium, allocating a total of \$2,542,833 from the state's general fund. The funding includes \$642,833 for base level premiums, \$900,000 for a campground rest facility (with a 75% cost-share not exceeding \$900,000), and \$1,000,000 for safety and security infrastructure. The bill specifically notes that these are one-time funding items not included in the base budget for the 2027-2029 biennium, and the State Fair Association will be required to report to the appropriations committees about how these funds are used. Additionally, the bill provides an exemption from existing state law to allow the State Fair to use the provided funding for constructing the campground rest facility and improving safety and security infrastructure, which represents a deviation from previous restrictions on facility operations and maintenance costs.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2009.html
HB1020	A Bank of North Dakota line of credit; to authorize the state water commission to issue and sell bonds for water projects; to provide legislative intent; to provide for a report; to provide for a study; to provide a continuing appropriation; to provide for a transfer; to provide an exemption; and to declare an emergency.	Senate Appropriations - Education and Environment Division Executive Session (08:30:00 3/26/2025 Sakakawea)	3/26/2025	This bill provides comprehensive funding and strategic planning for water infrastructure and resources in North Dakota. The legislation appropriates nearly \$922.5 million from various funds to the Department of Water Resources for the 2025-27 biennium, with key financial provisions including a \$200 million line of credit from the Bank of North Dakota, a \$45 million transfer from the Resources Trust Fund to the Water Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund, and specific allocations for projects like the Red River Valley Water Supply Project, Mouse River Flood Control, and regional water supply initiatives. The bill authorizes the State Water Commission to issue up to \$100 million in bonds for southwest pipeline projects and mandates two important studies during the 2025-26 interim: one examining the governance and finance models of regional water systems, and another evaluating the state's water project cost-share policy. Additionally, the legislation provides funding for recreation grants, allows some flexibility in budget transfers, and includes provisions for continuing unexpended project funds into the next biennium. The bill declares itself an emergency measure, enabling immediate implementation upon passage, and reflects the state's commitment to maintaining and developing critical water infrastructure across North Dakota.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1020.html
HB1149	The revised uniform unclaimed property act; and to declare an emergency.	Sent to Governor	3/26/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's Unclaimed Property Act with several key provisions, primarily updating rules around abandoned property. The bill expands the definition of abandoned property to include virtual currency, which can be considered abandoned after three years of no owner activity, and adds provisions for excess proceeds from vehicle and property sales. It modifies record retention requirements for holders, allowing them to keep records for ten years after filing reports and extending retention during examinations or voluntary disclosure programs. The bill also changes limitations on administrative actions, preventing the administrator from pursuing enforcement actions more than seven years after a nonfraudulent report or ten years after a holder's duty arose. Additionally, the bill adds a new provision allowing the administrator to authorize voluntary property disclosure and expands the types of debts that can be collected from unclaimed property, now including civil monetary judgments. The bill also updates interstate and international information-sharing protocols, making it easier for the state to exchange information about abandoned property with other jurisdictions. Lastly, the bill is declared an emergency measure, meaning it would take effect immediately upon passage.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1149.html

HB1165	Election notices and municipal voter registration.	Rereferred to State and Local Government	3/26/2025	This bill makes several modifications to North Dakota's election laws, focusing on various administrative and procedural aspects of elections. The bill expands the definition of "candidate" to include individuals who have publicly declared their candidacy, formed a campaign committee, circulated nominating petitions, or solicited campaign contributions. It introduces a new definition of "complete residential address" and adds restrictions on using private funds or entities in election administration. The bill changes several procedural requirements, such as extending the deadline for write-in candidates from four to twenty-one days before an election, modifying ballot preparation and distribution processes, and adjusting how county auditors handle election-related tasks like certifying election results and issuing certificates of election. The legislation also updates requirements for absentee ballot applications, including mandatory mailing of applications by county auditors for various types of elections and standardizing envelope formats. Additionally, the bill repeals two existing sections of the North Dakota Century Code related to election notices and municipal voter registration, streamlining election-related regulations and potentially simplifying administrative processes for election officials.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1165.html
HB1346	The regulation of the operation of off-highway vehicles and political subdivision rules regulating off-highway vehicles; and to provide a penalty.	Sent to Governor	3/26/2025	This bill makes several amendments to North Dakota's off-highway vehicle (OHV) regulations, focusing on three key areas. First, it updates the definitions section to include a new definition for "peace officer" and clarifies the existing definitions of different classes of off-highway vehicles. Second, the bill expands the authority of local governments by allowing both cities and counties to regulate, restrict, and prohibit the use of off-highway vehicles within their jurisdictions. Third, the bill modifies the penalty structure for OHV violations, increasing some fines: the general infraction fee is raised from ten to twenty dollars, and another specific infraction fee is increased from twenty to fifty dollars. The bill maintains the provision that allows for a fee reduction if proof of registration is provided after a violation. These changes aim to provide more comprehensive regulation of off-highway vehicles, giving local governments more control over OHV use and establishing a more structured penalty system for violations. An off-highway vehicle is defined as a motorized vehicle designed for cross-country travel on various terrains, excluding electric bicycles, and is categorized into three classes based on size, weight, and design characteristics.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1346.html
HB1391	Creating a new status related to human rights and antidiscrimination policies.	Reported back, do not pass, placed on calendar 3 2 0	3/26/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's human rights and antidiscrimination laws to add "health status" as a protected category across multiple sections of existing law. Specifically, the bill defines "health status" as an individual's medical records or preferences relating to the right to refuse medical procedures, treatments, injections, devices, vaccines, or prophylactic measures. The amendments prohibit discrimination based on health status in various contexts including employment, public accommodations, public services, and credit transactions. Additionally, the bill introduces a new section specifically addressing health care facilities, allowing them to ask employees about their health status for the purpose of implementing safety measures related to communicable diseases. Under this provision, health care facilities can request voluntary health status information and may consider employees who decline to provide such information as potentially at risk for communicable diseases. The changes aim to expand protections against discrimination while providing some flexibility for health care facilities to manage workplace health and safety concerns.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1391.html
HB1401	The transfer of real property by exclusive and nonexclusive listing agreements.	Sent to Governor	3/26/2025	This bill amends North Dakota law to provide more detailed guidelines for cities selling real property through listing agreements. The bill expands the existing procedures by allowing cities to sell property through both nonexclusive and exclusive listing agreements, with specific requirements for the latter. When selecting a real estate broker for an exclusive listing, cities must evaluate the broker's experience selling similar properties, their proposed marketing strategy, and their fee structure. The bill requires cities to publish the resolution describing the property to be sold on their website for at least fourteen days. Additionally, the legislation introduces new provisions allowing cities to pay compensation to a buyer's real estate broker during purchase negotiations, while mandating that city officials carefully consider the financial impact of such compensation on the total fees and commissions. The bill aims to provide cities with more flexibility and transparency in selling municipal real property, ensuring a more competitive and strategic approach to real estate transactions.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1401.html
SB2165	The powers and duties of the peace officer standards and training board and peace officer licensing fees.	Sent to Governor	3/26/2025	This bill modifies the powers and duties of the North Dakota Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, expanding its authority and clarifying licensing procedures. The bill allows the board to require licensed peace officers to undergo physical or psychological examinations with cause, if deemed necessary for public safety, and grants the board legal authorization to access and review medical and psychological records related to these examinations. The bill also expands the board's fee structure to include charges for license suspension, reinstatement, duplicate licenses, and late qualifications. Additionally, the bill broadens the grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking a peace officer's license, including the ability to do so if an officer has a physical or psychological condition that prevents them from safely performing their duties. The legislation provides the board with more comprehensive oversight of peace officer licensing, including the power to require examinations before reinstating a revoked license and to deny licensure if an applicant refuses to release requested medical information. The bill aims to enhance public safety by giving the board more robust tools to assess and maintain the professional standards of peace officers in North Dakota.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2165.html
HB1176	Legacy fund definitions and the legacy earnings fund; to provide an appropriation; to provide a transfer; to provide an expiration date; and to declare an emergency.	Committee Hearing 02:00 (Appropriations)	3/27/2025	This bill introduces comprehensive changes to North Dakota's property tax and legacy fund systems, focusing on several key areas. The bill creates a new legacy earnings fund that will distribute 7% of the legacy fund's five-year average balance every two years, with specific allocations: first to the legacy sinking and interest fund for debt service, then to the highway distribution fund, and finally to a new legacy property tax relief fund. It modifies the primary residence tax credit, increasing the maximum credit to \$1,450 and establishing a new certification process for primary residential property. The bill also introduces significant limitations on property tax levies by local taxing districts, restricting annual increases to 3% without voter approval, and allowing voters to approve increases for up to four years. Additionally, the legislation adjusts property tax assessment notices, homestead tax credits, and various definitions related to property classification. The bill appropriates \$473 million for the primary residence credit, with about 84.23% of that funding coming from the legacy fund, and aims to provide property tax relief while creating more transparent and structured funding mechanisms for local governments and state services.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1176.html
HB1197	A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study of correctional facilities.	Reported back amended, do pass, amendment placed on calendar 5 0 0	3/27/2025	This bill directs the legislative management to conduct a comprehensive study of correctional facilities in North Dakota during the 2025-26 interim period. The study will examine various aspects of jails and regional correctional centers, including their current and future infrastructure requirements, the potential advantages and costs of regional correctional facilities, the consequences of delayed inmate admissions, and how inmates are prioritized for placement in the department of corrections and rehabilitation. To ensure a thorough and balanced investigation, the study will include input from a diverse group of stakeholders, such as representatives from counties with populations above and below 7,500, local law enforcement officials, the department of corrections and rehabilitation, the office of management and budget, and the attorney general's office. By the end of the study, the legislative management is required to prepare a report detailing their findings and recommendations, along with any proposed legislation necessary to implement those recommendations, which will be presented to the 70th legislative assembly.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1197.html

HB1218	A temporary moratorium on conducting an economic analysis for assessment drain projects; to provide for a study by the state water commission; to provide for a legislative management report; and to provide an expiration date.	Senate Energy and Natural Resources Executive Session (09:10:00 3/27/2025 Peace Garden)	3/27/2025	This bill establishes a temporary two-year moratorium from August 1, 2025, to July 31, 2027, during which the North Dakota State Water Commission and Department of Water Resources are prohibited from conducting economic analyses for assessment drain projects. During this period, the State Water Commission is required to study and review its existing formula for performing economic analyses of these drain projects. The commission must provide periodic updates to the legislative management and submit a final report before August 1, 2026, which will include findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation or appropriation requests needed to implement changes to the economic analysis process. The moratorium section of the bill will automatically expire on July 31, 2027, effectively suspending the prohibition on economic analyses after that date. This bill appears to be aimed at allowing state water resources officials to comprehensively review and potentially improve their methodology for evaluating the economic aspects of drainage project assessments.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1218.html
HB1297	Home rule powers in counties and cities.	Committee Hearing 03:30 (State and Local Government)	3/27/2025	This bill amends North Dakota state law to prohibit two specific voting methods - approval voting and ranked-choice voting - in all local, state, and federal elections. Approval voting is defined as a method where voters can vote for all candidates they approve of in a race, with winners determined by the most votes, while ranked-choice voting allows voters to rank candidates by preference, with candidates eliminated in rounds until one candidate achieves a majority. The bill explicitly states that any ordinance, including those created under home rule charters by counties or cities, that conflicts with this prohibition will be considered void. Specifically, the bill modifies existing sections of the North Dakota Century Code related to county and city election provisions to incorporate this new restriction, ensuring that traditional voting methods remain the standard for elections across the state. The goal appears to be maintaining a conventional voting system and preventing alternative voting methodologies from being implemented at any level of government in North Dakota.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1297.html
HB1454	An opt-out procedure for required vaccines.	Reported back amended, do pass, amendment placed on calendar 4 2 0	3/27/2025	This bill creates a new section in North Dakota law establishing an opt-out procedure for required vaccines across various government entities. Specifically, the bill mandates that state agencies, political subdivisions, and government entities cannot require an individual to receive a vaccine without providing an opt-out option on health, religious, or philosophical grounds. However, certain institutions are exempted from this requirement, including correctional facilities, public health units, hospitals, healthcare providers (such as long-term care and assisted living facilities), and educational institutions like schools and day care centers. The bill also includes a critical exception that allows mandatory vaccination during a declared public health disaster or emergency. By introducing this legislation, the bill aims to provide individuals with more personal choice regarding vaccine requirements while maintaining specific exemptions for sensitive institutional settings where disease prevention is particularly critical.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1454.html
HB1500	Nonconforming structures in counties, cities, and townships.	Returned to House (12)	3/27/2025	This bill creates new sections of law for counties, cities, and townships in North Dakota that establish consistent rules for repairing and rebuilding nonconforming residential structures (buildings that no longer meet current zoning requirements due to changes in local ordinances). Under these provisions, a damaged residential structure located in a residential zone can be fully repaired or rebuilt even if it was damaged beyond 50% of its value, provided certain conditions are met. These conditions include: submitting a building permit application within six months of damage, beginning restoration within one year, ensuring the property abuts a public right of way, and meeting specific requirements such as not expanding the structure's footprint, height, or square footage, maintaining existing parking spaces, complying with building and health codes, and not posing risks to public safety or encroaching on neighboring properties. The bill also allows zoning authorities some flexibility to create less restrictive regulations and maintains special considerations for structures in floodplain areas to ensure continued eligibility for national flood insurance. A "nonconforming structure" is defined as a building that was legally constructed but became non-compliant due to subsequent zoning changes.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1500.html
HB1577	A wastewater infrastructure grant program and the duties of the department of environmental quality; and to provide an appropriation.	Senate Energy and Natural Resources Executive Session (09:36:00 3/27/2025 Peace Garden)	3/27/2025	This bill establishes a new wastewater infrastructure grant program administered by the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, designed to help local government entities upgrade, replace, or construct wastewater systems. The program allows cities, counties, townships, water resource districts, recreation service districts, and water districts to apply for grants to improve their wastewater infrastructure, with several key restrictions: grants cannot exceed 60% of a project's total cost, no entity can receive more than one grant per two-year budget cycle, and projects must either be in compliance with current wastewater regulations or work to return a system to compliance. The bill appropriates \$25 million from the Strategic Investment and Improvements Fund for these grants, with a specific mandate that at least \$12.5 million must be awarded to cities with populations under 12,500. No single project can receive more than \$12.5 million, and any remaining funds targeted for smaller cities can be reallocated to other eligible projects by April 1, 2027, if not fully distributed. This funding is considered a one-time allocation for the 2025-2027 biennium, aimed at supporting critical wastewater infrastructure improvements across North Dakota's smaller communities.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1577.html
SB2027	County, city, and township floodplain management ordinances and to provide definitions.	Sent to Governor	3/27/2025	This bill establishes a comprehensive framework for floodplain management authority in North Dakota, allowing counties, cities, and townships to create and enforce floodplain management ordinances. The bill defines key terms like "floodplain management" as a community-based effort to prevent or reduce flooding risks, and provides detailed guidelines for how local governments can exercise this authority. Counties have primary floodplain management responsibility by default, but townships can opt to take over this authority through a written resolution, with the ability to later relinquish it back to the county. Cities can also establish their own floodplain management ordinances within their zoning jurisdictions. The bill requires that all floodplain management ordinances be forwarded to the department of water resources for inclusion in a new central, publicly accessible electronic repository, which will track which jurisdictions are undertaking floodplain management. Importantly, the bill explicitly excludes Indian country lands from these local management efforts and allows local governments to enact these ordinances without first activating their zoning authorities. The legislation aims to create a more structured and transparent approach to managing flood risks at the local government level.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2027.html
SB2035	The definitions of an educational organization and public-spirited organization, and raffles; and to provide for application.	Amendment adopted, placed on calendar	3/27/2025	This bill amends several subsections of North Dakota's gaming and nonprofit organization regulations, primarily focusing on expanding and clarifying definitions for educational and public-spirited organizations. The bill broadens the definition of an "educational organization" to explicitly include collegiate athletic organizations and educational public service organizations, allowing them more flexibility in conducting gaming activities. For "public-spirited organizations," the bill modifies the definition to remove references to amateur sports competition, tourism, and community recreation, while adding support for convention centers and visitor bureaus. The bill also adjusts language around permit applications for these organizations, specifying that domestic nonprofit organizations or groups recognized by local governing bodies can apply for gaming permits with certain prize limitations. Additionally, the bill removes references to adult amateur athletic activities and adjusts language around scholarship funds, youth activities, and cultural preservation. The changes aim to provide more precise definitions and expand the potential activities and funding mechanisms for educational and public-spirited organizations in North Dakota, with the new provisions applying to organizations applying for or renewing licenses after the bill's effective date.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2035.html

SB2097	The creation of a rural community endowment fund and a rural community endowment fund committee; to provide an appropriation for the rural community endowment fund; to provide for a transfer; and to provide for a report.	House Political Subdivisions Executive Session (15:00:00 3/27/2025 327B)	3/27/2025	This bill creates a Rural Community Endowment Fund within the state treasury of North Dakota, designed to support small rural communities with populations under 1,000 people. The fund will be administered by a committee appointed by the state commissioner, consisting of nine rural community residents and a nonprofit representative, who will be responsible for awarding grants to support local housing, workforce development, business recruitment, infrastructure, and other community needs. The fund will be a permanent endowment, with its principal protected and only the interest earnings available for grants. An initial appropriation of \$5 million will be transferred from the state's general fund, and the fund can also accept additional gifts and donations. The department will contract with a nonprofit organization to help administer the program and can spend up to 10% of the fund's distribution on administrative costs. The committee will prioritize projects that enhance the long-term prosperity, safety, and quality of life in rural communities, and will develop its own application and evaluation processes. The department is required to provide annual reports to the legislative management and appropriations committees detailing the fund's status, use of funding, and program results.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2097.html
SB2180	The opportunity to provide public comment at a meeting of a public entity.	House Political Subdivisions Executive Session (09:17:00 3/27/2025 327B)	3/27/2025	This bill establishes requirements for public comment during regular meetings of local government entities in North Dakota, including cities, counties, townships, school districts, park districts, and water resource districts. The bill mandates that every regular meeting must provide an opportunity for public comments, with individuals required to provide their name and address in writing (though the address will be kept confidential). Governing bodies are given the flexibility to set reasonable limits on public comments, such as restricting the time per speaker or total comment duration. They must develop a formal policy governing public comments that ensures comments are relevant to the public entity, do not disrupt the meeting, and are not defamatory, abusive, harassing, or unlawful. The policy can also prohibit comments that involve confidential information, have alternative submission procedures, or are otherwise legally prohibited. This legislation aims to enhance transparency and civic participation by creating a structured framework for public input during local government meetings while maintaining the orderly conduct of those meetings.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2180.html
SB2225	A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for a housing for opportunity, mobility, and empowerment program; to provide for a legislative management report; and to declare an emergency.	House Political Subdivisions Executive Session (14:30:00 3/27/2025 327B)	3/27/2025	This bill provides a \$50 million appropriation from the Strategic Investment and Improvements Fund to the North Dakota Department of Commerce for a Housing for Opportunity, Mobility, and Empowerment (HOME) grant program designed to support affordable housing infrastructure development. The funding will be allocated across different community sizes: \$10 million for communities under 5,000 people, \$20 million for communities between 5,001-20,000 people, \$15 million for communities over 20,000 people, and \$5 million for rural metropolitan areas near larger cities. Communities can receive grants to lower infrastructure development costs and address housing needs, with a maximum grant of \$1,500,000 for larger communities. The department must secure matching funds from non-state sources on a dollar-for-dollar basis, which can include contributions from political subdivisions, local developers, private funds, donations, or in-kind contributions. The program will run from the bill's effective date through June 30, 2027, and the department is required to submit a comprehensive report to the legislative management and governor by June 30, 2026, detailing the program's progress, expenditures, housing units supported, and matching funds raised. The bill is declared an emergency measure, allowing for immediate implementation.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2225.html
SB2269	Recall petitions and recall elections for political subdivision officials.	House Political Subdivisions Executive Session (15:02:00 3/27/2025 327B)	3/27/2025	This bill modifies North Dakota's recall petition and election processes, primarily focusing on city governing body members and school board officials. The legislation introduces new requirements for recall petitions, including increasing the percentage of voter signatures needed from 25% to 35% for city and school board members. For cities with populations over 250 or school districts with enrollments over 250, petitions must now have 15 sponsors who are qualified electors. The bill standardizes recall petition procedures, mandating that petitions include a stated reason for recall and be pre-approved by the secretary of state. Circulators now have 90 days to gather signatures, and filing officers will review petition signatures thoroughly. The bill also establishes specific timelines for special recall elections, requiring them to be held between 95 and 105 days after petition certification, with provisions to prevent recall elections near regularly scheduled elections. Additionally, the legislation clarifies that a member cannot be recalled twice during their term and adds procedural details about candidate filing, election cancellation, and replacement of recalled members. These changes aim to provide more structured and consistent guidelines for recall processes in North Dakota's local political subdivisions.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2269.html
SB2296	Emergency services communications systems.	House Political Subdivisions Executive Session (10:02:00 3/27/2025 327B)	3/27/2025	This bill amends the North Dakota Century Code to update and expand definitions related to emergency services communications systems, with a particular focus on clarifying and adding terms used in emergency response contexts. The bill introduces a new definition for "first responder" that explicitly includes firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical services personnel, and public safety telecommunications, which broadens the previous understanding of public safety personnel. Several existing definitions are renumbered and slightly modified, such as expanding the description of "wireless service" and "voice over internet protocol service" to be more comprehensive. The bill also updates terminology around emergency communications systems, adding more precise language about communication connections, services, and technologies used in emergency response. Notable changes include more detailed explanations of 911 systems, public safety answering points (PSAPs), and the types of services and technologies involved in emergency communications. The amendments aim to provide greater clarity and precision in legal definitions related to emergency communication infrastructure and personnel, reflecting the evolving technological landscape of emergency services.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2296.html
SB2321	Awarding costs and fees in eminent domain proceedings.	Reported back, do not pass, placed on calendar 10 1 2	3/27/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's eminent domain laws to provide more comprehensive protections for property owners when their land is being condemned. The amendments clarify and expand the circumstances under which defendants can recover costs and fees in eminent domain proceedings. Specifically, the bill allows property owners to be reimbursed for reasonable attorney's fees and expert witness costs if a public entity (such as a state agency, municipality, or public utility) withdraws or dismisses condemnation proceedings without the defendant's agreement. The bill also provides that courts may award costs, including interest and attorney's fees, to defendants in condemnation cases. Additionally, the language updates terminology and streamlines the legal text, replacing outdated phrases like "such" with more modern language. The key goal appears to be ensuring that property owners are not financially burdened when facing potential land seizure, by making it easier for them to recover legal expenses if the condemning entity does not follow through with the proceedings.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2321.html
SB2351	Annexation of property to a school district; and to declare an emergency.	Reported back amended, do pass, amendment placed on calendar 13 0 1	3/27/2025	This bill modifies North Dakota's school district annexation process by making several key changes. First, when individuals petition to exchange property between school districts, the bill removes the previous limit on valuation differences and instead requires both affected school districts to agree on the property's value. The bill also strengthens notification requirements for annexation hearings, mandating that property owners must receive certified mail notice at least 21 days before the hearing, compared to the previous less specific notice provisions. During annexation hearings, the county committee must now explicitly consider the potential modification to property tax obligations for the owners of the property being annexed, which was not previously required. Additionally, the bill clarifies procedures for annexation petitions involving school districts in multiple counties, specifying how county committees should jointly review such petitions. The bill includes an emergency clause, which means the changes can take effect immediately upon passage, potentially expediting property annexation processes for school districts. These modifications aim to provide more transparency, detailed consideration, and collaborative decision-making in school district boundary changes.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2351.html

SB2369	Exempt sales from educational, religious, or charitable activities conducted by a nonprofit organization in a publicly or privately owned facility; and to provide an effective date.	Filed with Secretary Of State 03/26	3/27/2025	This bill amends North Dakota tax law to modify sales tax exemptions for nonprofit organizations' educational, religious, or charitable activities. Specifically, the bill clarifies that sales tax exemptions for such activities will not apply to gross receipts over \$10,000 from events held in publicly owned facilities where fair market rent has not been paid. The bill also maintains existing exemptions for sales that do not compete with regular retailers, such as those that do not maintain inventory, conduct regular retail sales, or use dedicated sales websites. Additionally, the bill preserves existing tax exemptions for events by higher education institutions, public school districts, and nonprofit music or dramatic arts organizations. The changes will take effect for taxable events occurring after June 30, 2025, providing a clear timeline for implementation and giving organizations time to adjust to the new regulations.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2369.html
SB2382	Vexatious litigation; and to declare an emergency.	Sent to Governor	3/27/2025	This bill creates a new chapter in North Dakota law to address vexatious litigation, which is defined as legal action primarily intended to harass, cause unnecessary burden, or impede the judicial process. The bill defines a "vexatious litigant" as someone who has either commenced multiple litigations involving vexatious conduct, repeatedly files unmeritorious motions or documents, attempts to relitigate previously resolved cases, or has been declared a vexatious litigant by another court. If a court determines by a preponderance of evidence that an individual meets these criteria, it can issue a prelifting order restricting the person from filing new litigation or documents without prior court approval. The prelifting order must also impose all costs of the vexatious litigation on the filing party and award reasonable attorney fees to the opposing party. The clerk of court will provide copies of such orders to the state court administrator, who will maintain a roster of vexatious litigants. The bill declares itself an emergency measure, meaning it would take effect immediately upon passage, and requires the Supreme Court to adopt rules for implementing these provisions. This legislation aims to prevent abuse of the legal system by individuals who file repetitive, frivolous, or harassing lawsuits.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2382.html
SB2398	The establishment of military impact zones and military compatibility committees.	Returned to Senate (12)	3/27/2025	This bill establishes a new framework for managing potential conflicts around military bases in North Dakota by creating military compatibility committees and military impact zones. The bill defines "encroachment" as any action that could interfere with military base operations, including issues like environmental impact, noise pollution, land development, and urban growth. These military compatibility committees would be formed by the agriculture commissioner and include representatives from counties, townships, cities, and military installations within designated military impact zones. The committees' primary responsibilities would include providing guidance to local governments on military-compatible practices, and establishing a uniform process for coordinating zoning, land use, construction, energy development, telecommunications, and infrastructure projects that could potentially impact military operations. The zones' boundaries would be determined by a compatible use study and based on the specific missions of each military base. This approach aims to proactively manage potential conflicts and support the sustainability of military operations in the state by ensuring coordinated and compatible land and resource use around military installations.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2398.html
HB1375	The time frame to file a complaint against a licensed retailer of alcoholic beverages; and to provide a penalty.	Introduced, first reading, referred to Judiciary	3/7/2025	This bill proposes several changes to North Dakota's alcoholic beverage regulations. First, it establishes limits on compliance checks for licensed alcohol premises, allowing local governing bodies to conduct up to two compliance checks per month and restricting random inquiries without reasonable suspicion of a violation. The bill also introduces a new provision requiring individuals under 21 years old to provide photo identification when requested by a peace officer if there is suspicion they are in a licensed premises for a prohibited purpose. If an individual fails to provide identification, they can be charged with an infraction, but the charge will be dismissed if they later prove they were over 21 at the time. Additionally, the bill modifies the existing process for filing complaints against licensed alcohol retailers by specifically requiring that such complaints be filed within 14 days of the alleged violation and setting clear guidelines for how hearings on these complaints should be conducted, including mailing requirements and mandating that hearings be electronically or stenographically recorded. These changes aim to clarify enforcement procedures and strengthen age verification processes in establishments that serve alcohol.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1375.html
HB1588	Dangerous weapons, the possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon at a public gathering, and producing a concealed carry license upon request; and to provide a penalty.	Introduced, first reading, referred to Judiciary	3/7/2025	This bill proposes several changes to North Dakota's laws regarding dangerous weapons and firearms. It expands the definition of a "dangerous weapon" by increasing the blade length threshold from five to six inches and adds provisions for liability exemptions, weapon possession, and penalties. Specifically, the bill creates new protections for public and private entities, allowing them to be exempt from liability for injuries caused by individuals carrying concealed weapons. It permits political subdivisions to prohibit firearms in public buildings and introduces a new criminal penalty for using a binary trigger (a device that allows a firearm to fire multiple rounds rapidly) during the commission of a crime. The bill also modifies existing regulations around carrying concealed weapons, including requirements for license holders to produce their license when requested by law enforcement and clarifying information disclosure during interactions with officers. Additionally, the bill changes penalties for weapon-related infractions, replacing some criminal charges with noncriminal offenses and establishing specific fee structures for violations. The legislation aims to provide more clarity and flexibility in North Dakota's firearm and dangerous weapon regulations while maintaining public safety considerations.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1588.html
SB2254	A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of transportation for fixed route city paratransit transportation services grants; and to provide for a legislative management study.	Second reading, passed, yeas 43 nays 4	3/26/2025	This bill provides a \$2,000,000 one-time appropriation from the state's general fund to the North Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT) for grants to fixed route city transportation providers to support their paratransit services during the 2025-2027 biennium. Paratransit services are specialized transportation options for individuals with disabilities who cannot use standard public transit. Additionally, the bill directs the legislative management to conduct a comprehensive study during the 2025-26 interim period to examine the funding requirements of fixed route city transportation networks. The study will specifically explore how these transportation systems can address critical community needs such as population growth, economic development, workforce challenges, and healthcare access. The legislative management will be tasked with developing a proposed funding formula for these transportation systems and must report its findings and recommended legislation to the 70th legislative assembly, providing a strategic approach to future transportation funding and infrastructure planning.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2254.html
SB2379	The surveying process during eminent domain proceedings.	Second reading, passed as amended, yeas 69 nays 23	3/27/2025	This bill amends North Dakota law regarding the surveying process during eminent domain proceedings, which is the legal process by which government or authorized entities can acquire private property for public use. The bill requires that before conducting a survey on private land for a public use project, the entity must provide the landowner with a detailed written notice via certified mail at least thirty days before the survey. This notice must include specific information such as the project's name, proposed completion date, type, route, nature of work, and contact details of the person in charge. If the survey is not conducted within 90 days of the initial notice, a new notice must be sent. The bill maintains the existing requirement that surveys must be conducted in a manner that provides the greatest public benefit while causing the least private injury. The law also clarifies that survey entry does not constitute a claim for relief by the landowner, except in cases of negligence, wantonness, or malice. These changes aim to provide landowners with more transparency and protection during the initial stages of potential land acquisition for public projects.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2379.html
HB1522	Golf carts on city streets.	Signed by Governor 03/21	3/24/2025	This bill amends North Dakota state law to modify regulations around golf cart usage on city streets. Currently, city governments can allow golf carts on city streets through local ordinances, but the existing law previously restricted golf cart travel to daytime trips between a resident's home and a golf course. The new bill removes this specific daytime/golf course restriction and instead focuses on prohibiting golf cart operation at night. The legislation maintains that golf carts operating under city ordinances remain exempt from typical vehicle title, registration, and equipment requirements. Additionally, the ordinance continues to prevent golf carts from traveling on federal, state, or county highways, with the exception of making perpendicular crossings of such highways. This change gives city governments more flexibility in determining local golf cart operation rules while maintaining basic safety constraints.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1522.html

SB2324	The amendment or repeal of a county and city home rule charter.	Signed by Governor 03/24	3/24/2025	This bill addresses the process for amending home rule charters for counties and cities in North Dakota, creating a new streamlined mechanism for making changes when legally required. Specifically, the bill allows county and city governing bodies to directly amend their home rule charters through a resolution when a portion of the charter is preempted, superseded, or invalidated by a legislative act or court order, without requiring a public vote. The resolution must reference the legal authority supporting the amendment and must be published in the official newspaper or on the official website within 30 days of adoption. However, the bill maintains that any amendments adding new powers not originally included in the home rule charter must still go through the traditional amendment process with voter approval. The changes apply to both county and city home rule charters, providing a more efficient way to ensure charter compliance with current laws and court orders. The bill requires that copies of such amendments be filed with the secretary of state, ensuring proper documentation and transparency in the process.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2324.html
SB2132	Careless driving and causing injury to the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle or damage to an authorized emergency vehicle; and to provide a penalty.	Signed by Governor 03/25	3/26/2025	This bill amends North Dakota's careless driving law to expand penalties and protections for emergency responders and snow removal workers. The legislation increases the fine for careless driving from \$30 to \$100 and establishes more specific penalties when a driver causes injury or significant damage to certain individuals and vehicles. Specifically, the bill creates enhanced infractions for drivers who cause injury to first responders, emergency vehicle operators, or their assistants while they are stationary on the roadside with visible warning lights, or who cause damage exceeding \$4,000 to snow removal equipment or authorized emergency vehicles. The bill defines snow removal equipment as vehicles operated by employees maintaining highways during winter conditions. The updated law aims to provide greater legal protection for essential workers performing critical public safety and infrastructure maintenance tasks by imposing stricter consequences for drivers who do not exercise reasonable caution in these scenarios.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo2132.html
HB1371	AN ACT to provide for a legislative management study relating to providing uniform group insurance program health insurance benefits coverage for retired peace officers.	Signed by President	3/27/2025	This bill directs the North Dakota Legislative Management to conduct a comprehensive study during the 2025-26 interim period regarding health insurance benefits for retired peace officers. The study will examine multiple aspects of potential health insurance coverage, including reviewing current benefits, analyzing premium costs, evaluating eligibility requirements such as retirement years of service and Medicare eligibility, assessing potential financial impacts on the state and political subdivisions, and exploring the potential effects on law enforcement recruitment and retention. The study will also investigate the implications of establishing a specialized health insurance pool for retired peace officers and consider how such benefits might impact the state's financial reporting of post-employment benefit-related unfunded liability. By the end of the interim period, the Legislative Management is required to report its findings and recommendations, along with any proposed legislation, to the 70th Legislative Assembly, providing a thorough examination of how to potentially improve health insurance benefits for retired peace officers in North Dakota.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1371.html
HB1602	Political subdivision participation in the public employees retirement system defined contribution retirement plan.	Signed by President	3/27/2025	This bill amends the North Dakota Century Code to modify rules for public employees' retirement plans, primarily focusing on changes to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) starting January 1, 2025. Specifically, the bill closes the defined benefit main plan to new eligible employees, who will instead be required to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan. An "eligible employee" is defined as a permanent employee who is at least 18 years old, becomes a participating member after December 31, 2024, and is not already covered by other specialized retirement plans like those for law enforcement, judges, or teachers. Importantly, the bill clarifies that political subdivisions are not required to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan, making such participation optional. The bill also prohibits the retirement board from assessing fees or costs against a political subdivision for withdrawing from the defined contribution retirement plan. Employees who were already participating or had deferred membership in the defined benefit plan before January 1, 2025, can continue to remain in that plan, even if they are rehired after that date. The bill aims to provide flexibility for political subdivisions while transitioning new employees to a defined contribution retirement plan.	https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1602.html