

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

BUDGET SECTION

Tuesday, June 29, 2004
Senate Chamber, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

- 10:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of minutes of the April 13, 2004, meeting
- 10:05 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the Office of Management and Budget regarding:
- Status of the general fund
 - Status of the tobacco settlement proceeds
 - Any line item transfers to accommodate information technology funding reductions, pursuant to Section 8 of 2003 House Bill No. 1505
 - Any other statutory reporting requirements
- 10:20 a.m. Presentations by representatives of the Office of Management and Budget and the Information Technology Department regarding the status of ConnectND
- 10:40 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the Office of Management and Budget regarding:
- The number of “updates and patches,” along with the related costs, required for ConnectND on an annual basis
 - The costs associated with developing, implementing, and maintaining the “patches” to the PeopleSoft system to enable payroll processing with no timelag
- 11:00 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the Department of Human Services regarding:
- An update on the status of the medical assistance program, including payments, caseloads, and the receipt of enhanced federal medical assistance percentage funds, and preliminary information on federal medical assistance percentage rates for the 2005-07 biennium
 - A report on the changes made to the Medicaid program and services by the department
 - A report regarding the outsourcing of employee positions and services
 - An update on the status of the sexual offender program at the State Hospital, including information on available funds in the department’s 2003-05 biennium budget to fund additional sexual offender beds at the State Hospital and departmental plans for funding the program
- 11:40 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the University of North Dakota regarding a request for Budget Section approval to accept and expend an additional \$984,159 in federal grant funds, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) Section 15-10-12.1, for the expansion of the existing Neuroscience Research Facility

- 11:50 a.m. Presentation by a representative of the State Department of Health on an update on bioterrorism funding and uses, including amount of funding provided each political subdivision and the purpose of the funding
- 12:00 noon Luncheon recess
- 1:00 p.m. Committee consideration of the following state agency requests that have been authorized by the Emergency Commission and require consideration by the Budget Section:
- Game and Fish Department (Request #1512) - To increase federal funds spending authority and the grants line item by \$80,000 to accept federal funds from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act for shooting range improvements with priority given to groups that support the hunter education program
 - Game and Fish Department (Request #1513) - To increase spending authority by \$250,000 to accept federal funds from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (\$75,000 - funding provided by federal gas tax on boat fuel) and other funds from the game and fish operating fund (\$175,000) for the capital improvements line item (\$250,000) to be used to improve and relocate water access boat ramps at Devils Lake
 - Division of Emergency Management (Request #1515) - To increase federal and special funds spending authority by \$7,516,231 relating to federal emergency relief funding (\$6,607,104) and state disaster loan proceeds (\$909,127 - from a Bank of North Dakota loan secured according to NDCC Section 37-17.1-23) for disaster costs associated with the snow emergency declaration in Dunn, McHenry, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, and Ward Counties and the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in January 2004 and the flooding emergency declaration in Benson, Cavalier, Grand Forks, Griggs, Nelson, Pembina, Ramsey, Steele, Traill, and Walsh Counties and the Spirit Lake Nation in March 2004
 - Agriculture Department (Request #1517) - To increase federal funds spending authority and to accept \$83,500 of federal funds from the United States Department of Agriculture for salaries and wages (\$47,600) and operating expenses (\$35,900) to identify exotic plant pests as potential biosecurity threats, coordinate and conduct pest destruction surveys, and develop response plans. This request includes one new FTE position.
 - Veterans Home (Request #1519) - For \$208,000 from the state contingencies fund and to increase spending authority by \$226,000 from transfer authority (\$208,000) and other funds from resident copayments (\$18,000) for capital assets (\$60,000) and operating expenses (\$166,000) to establish an in-house pharmacy. The pharmacy will provide medications to the Veterans Home basic care residents. The Fargo Veterans Administration Medical Center, which currently provides medications to these residents, will cease providing this service on January 1, 2005. The Emergency Commission added the stipulation that the Veterans Home first verify with the Veterans Administration whether it is mandatory for the pharmacy to be onsite and, if not, that the Veterans Home is to research other options with local area pharmacies to possibly become a contract depository for medications purchased through the Fargo Veterans Administration Medical Center and to dispense prescriptions onsite to residents and that any funds not used due to lower than anticipated costs be returned to the contingency fund pursuant to NDCC Section 54-16-08.

- 1:30 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Dakota Women's Correctional Rehabilitation Center, New England, on the status of contract housing female inmates, pursuant to Section 5 of 2003 House Bill No. 1506
- 2:00 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on the status of contract housing female inmates, pursuant to Section 5 of 2003 House Bill No. 1506, and the status of the department's 2003-05 budget
- 2:15 p.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of the *2003-05 Biennium Report on Compliance With Legislative Intent*
- 2:45 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Higher Education Committee on the following budget tours:
- The April 21-22, 2004, budget tour of Williston State College, Williston Research Extension Center, Dickinson State University, and Dickinson Research Extension Center
 - The May 3-4, 2004, budget tour of Mayville State University and Lake Region State College
 - The June 14, 2004, budget tour of Bismarck State College
- 3:00 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Budget Committee on Government Services on the committee's June 17, 2004, budget tour of Roughrider Industries
- 3:10 p.m. Distribution by the Legislative Council staff of correspondence from ethanol plants receiving production incentives from the state
- 3:15 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives
- 3:30 p.m. Adjourn

Committee Members

Representatives Ken Svedjan (Chairman), Ole Aarsvold, Larry Bellew, Rick Berg, Merle Boucher, Thomas Brusegaard, Ron Carlisle, Al Carlson, Jeff Delzer, Eliot Glassheim, Pam Gulleon, Keith Kempenich, James Kerzman, Kim Koppelman, Joe Kroeber, Bob Martinson, Ralph Metcalf, David Monson, Earl Rennerfeldt, Bob Skarphol, Blair Thoreson, Mike Timm, Francis J. Wald, John Warner, Amy Warnke

Senators John M. Andrist, Bill L. Bowman, Randel Christmann, Michael A. Every, Tony S. Grindberg, Ray Holmberg, Ralph L. Kilzer, Aaron Krauter, Ed Kringstad, Elroy N. Lindaas, Tim Mathern, David P. O'Connell, Larry Robinson, Randy A. Schobinger, Bob Stenehjem, Harvey Tallackson, Russell T. Thane