

## LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

Friday, October 20, 2023 Harvest Room, State Capitol Bismarck, North Dakota

Representative Mike Lefor, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Members present:** Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch\*, Josh Boschee, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson\*, Ben Koppelman\*, Emily O'Brien\*, Paul J. Thomas, Robin Weisz\*; Senators Brad Bekkedahl\*, Kyle Davison\*, Kathy Hogan, David Hogue, Jerry Klein, Tim Mathern\*, Janne Myrdal, Donald Schaible\*

Members absent: None

Others present: Allen H. Knudson, Emily Thompson, Legislative Council, Bismarck

See appendix for additional persons present.

## **BILL DRAFTS INCORPORATING PROVISIONS OF SENATE BILL NO. 2015 (2023)**

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1161.01000] relating to an appropriation to the Office of Management and Budget.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1156.01000] relating to an appropriation to the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1162.01000] relating to an appropriation to the Office of the Governor.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1165.01000] relating to an appropriation to the Judicial branch.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1163.01000] relating to an appropriation for facility-related grants.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1155.01000] relating to an appropriation for administrative expenses for boards and committees.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1164.01000] relating to an appropriation to the Department of Commerce.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1167.01000] relating to a special penalty for the distribution of drugs.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1170.01000] relating to loans from the infrastructure loan fund.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1169.01000] relating to water resource boards and the water infrastructure revolving loan fund.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1168.01000] relating to a clean sustainable energy authority fertilizer development incentive program.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1171.01000] relating to membership of the Public Employees Retirement System board.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1166.01000] relating to membership of the Public Employees Retirement System board.

Chairman Lefor discussed a bill draft [23.1172.01000] relating to membership of the Public Employees

Retirement System retirement plans.

It was moved by Senator Myrdal, seconded by Representative Thomas, and carried on a roll call vote that the bill drafts discussed by Chairman Lefor be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch, Josh Boschee, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Ben Koppelman, Emily O'Brien, Paul J. Thomas, Robinand Weisz; Senators David Hogue, Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Kathy Hogan, Jerry Klein, Tim Mathern, Janne Myrdal, Denaldand Schaible voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

## **BILL DRAFTS SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATORS**

It was moved by Representative Thomas, seconded by Senator Hogan, and carried on a roll call vote that any bills draft not requested for a separate vote by a member of the Legislative Management not be recommended for introduction at the special session. Representatives Lefor, Bosch, Boschee, Ista, Johnson, O'Brien, Thomas, and Weisz and Senators Bekkedahl, Davison, Hogan, Hogue, Klein, Mathern, Myrdal, and Schaible voted "aye." Representative Koppelman voted "nay."

Senator Jeffery Magrum, Hazelton, presented a bill draft [23.1176.01000] relating to foreign adversary land ownership. He noted:

- The purpose of the bill <u>draft</u> is to strengthen and address deficiencies relating to foreign adversary land ownership in North Dakota.
- The bill <u>draft</u> is necessary given <del>our current</del> polarized relations with China and Russia.

Representative Pat Heinert, Bismarck, presented a bill draft [23.1178.01000] relating to fees for courses through the North Dakota Center for Distance Education. He noted:

• Currently, sSchoolschool districts are required to pay student fees. This bill would exclude the school district from paying fees for courses offered by the school district of residence.

Representative Pat Heinert, Bismarck, presented a bill draft [23.1175.01000] relating to delinquency referral to juvenile court. He noted the bill draft:

- ThisThe bill draft would insertWould reinstate criminal mischief and theft back into the juvenile justice code.
- ThisThe bill draft is necessary to assist school districts across the state.

Representative Pat Heinert, Bismarck, presented a bill draft [23.1186.01000] relating to DNA testing, sampling, and procedures. He noted:

 ThisThethe bill <u>draft</u> would correct an issue relating to the authority to collect DNA samples by certified correctioncorrectional officers.

Representative Pat-Heinert, Bismarck, presented a bill draft [23.1190.01000] relating to income tax rates. He noted:

- This The bill draft is a one-time adjustment relating to income tax rates for individuals, estates, and trusts.
- This The adjustment would cost result in reduced income to the state of \$92 million in the form of reduced income.

When discussing the merits of the bill, some committee members expressed concerns about regarding the timing of this the income tax rate proposal and the ongoing costs of operating state government. Other committee members expressed support for the bill draft as it would give to provide additional relief to individuals in the lowest income tax bracket.

It was moved by Senator Hogue, seconded by Representative Koppelman, and failed on a roll call vote, that bill draft [23.1190.01000] relating to income tax rates be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike Lefor, and Ben Koppelman, and Senators David Hogue, and Kyle Davison, voted "aye." Representatives Glenn Bosch, Josh Boschee, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Emily O'Brien, Paul J. Thomas, Robinand Weisz and, Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Kathy Hogan, Jerry Klien, Tim Mathern, Janne Myrdal, Donaldand Schaible voted "nay."

Representative Pat Heinert, Bismarck, presented a bill draft [23.1188.01000] relating to a property tax credit on a primary residence. He noted:

This the bill draft would provide property tax assistance to North Dakota residents. Increased at a time when property tax is a growing concern that is affecting the people of North Dakota property owners.

Representative Dawson Holle, Mandan, presented a bill draft [23.1183.01000] relating to raw milk and raw milk products. He noted the bill draft:

- ThisThe bill draft would Would expands the raw milk industry by allowing for the sale of raw milk products in the state.
- ThisThe bill draft is needed because the Department of Agriculture has sent several warnings to North Dakota farmers attempting to sell raw milk products.

Representative Dawson-Holle, Mandan, presented a bill draft [23.1174.01000] relating to a cheese processing facility feasibility study. He noted the bill draft:

- The bill draft includes would Would provide for a study relating to a North Dakota milk and cheese
  processing facility and a cheese processing facility advisory committee.
- The bill draft is necessary to further the advancement of the dairy industry in North Dakota.

Representative Patrick Hatlestad, Williston, presented a bill draft [23.1184.01000] relating to a political subdivision housing development loan fund. He noted the bill draft:

- The bill draft would Would create a housing revolving loan fund to help assist contractors in the down payment of construction loans and is necessary to address the critical nature of affordable housing in western North Dakota.
- The bill draft could Could be expanded to address the critical nature of affordable housing across the entire state.

Representative Jayme Davis, Rolette, presented a bill draft [23.1180.01000] relating to a motor vehicle excise tax exemption for tribal members. She noted:

- This The bill draft adjusts the motor vehicle excise tax exemption for tribal members by removing the provision that requires tribal members to reside on the reservation to receive the tax exemption.
- Car dealers initially brought forth the idea forward during the 2023 regular session because transportation
  costs associated with bringing vehicles to a reservation are high.

Representative Lisa Finely-DeVille, Mandaree, presented a bill draft [23.1199.01000] relating to an appropriation for tribally controlled community college workforce development grants. She noted the bill draft:

- ThisThe bill draft would Would appropriate \$500,000 to the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing workforce development grants to tribally controlled community colleges.
- The bill draft is necessary and essential in creating jobs and economic growth, advancing a skilled workforce, closing the skills gap, leading industry demands, and helping provide for a stronger community.

Senator <del>Kathy</del> Hogan<del>, Fargo</del>, on behalf of Senator Mathern<del>, Fargo,</del> presented a bill draft [23.1179.01000]

relating to the Dakota Promise Forgivable Loan Program. She noted the bill draft is parallel to the forgivable student loan program administered by the state of Minnesota.

Mr. Mark Hagerott, Chancellor, North Dakota University System provided additional comments relating to a bill draft [23.1179.01000]. He noted:

- There are 10,000 Minnesota students enrolled in the North Dakota University System.
- This The bill draft would assist roughly 1,400 of these Minnesota students.

In response to questions from the committee members, Representative Boschee noted the bill draft would requires Minnesota students to reside and work in North Dakota for student loan forgiveness eligibility.

After further discussion, Senator Mathern withdrew the bill draft [23.1179.01000] relating to the Dakota Promise Forgivable Loan Program from further consideration for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23.2023.

Representative Ben-Koppelman, West Fargo, presented a bill draft [23.1158.01000] relating to the possession of a firearm while on probation. He noted:

- This The bill draft would amend the current laws relating to unsupervised probation and Second Amendment rights. Currently, if
- If an individual is placed on unsupervised probation for an infraction, that individual's gun rights are suspended until the conclusion of the probationary sentence.
- There have been 5,400 individuals in North Dakota on unsupervised probation who have lost their gun rights.
- This The bill draft is an emergency in nature due to the unbalanced infringement on Second Amendment rights.

It was moved by Representative Koppelman, seconded by Senator Klein, and failed on a roll call vote that bill draft [23.1158.01000] relating to the possession of a firearm while on probation be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representative Ben Koppelman, and Senators David Hogue, and Jerry Klein voted "aye." Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch, Josh Boschee, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Emily O'Brien, Paul J. Thomas, Robinand Weisz, and Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Kathy Hogan, Tim Mathern, Janne Myrdal, Donald and Schaible voted "nay."

Representative SuAnn Olson, Baldwin, presented a bill draft [23.1159.01000] relating to the creation of an emergency resources fund. <u>She noted:</u>

- This The bill will draft would createdirect an interim study to ensure financial resource availability in mitigating large-scale damage recovery if an emergency arises because of infrastructure projects across North Dakota.
- Many of the smaller communities consist of rely upon on voluntary emergency response services and which may not be equipped to handle a large-scale emergency.
- If North Dakota continues to strive to be an energy leader, wethe state should make sure weensure communities are equipped to handle all types of emergency situations.

Senator Curt Kreun, Grand Forks, presented a bill draft [23.1173.01000] relating to the establishment of a career academy loan program. He noted:

The bill <u>draft</u> would require the Bank of North Dakota to administer a career academy loan program to
provide loans to entities approved by the State Board for Career and Technical Education to establish a
career academy facility under the statewide area career center initiative grant program.

Loans would be required to be repaid in 10 years, with a two2-year window for school districts to apply.

• This The bill draft is time-sensitive as because it relates to workforce development.

Representative Larry Bellew, Minot, presented a bill draft [23.1160.01000] relating to the homestead tax credit. He noted the bill draft:

- The bill draft would simplify Simplifies the homestead tax credit for the public and make the homestead tax credit taxable income as intended by the Legislative Assembly. necessary becauselshe bill draft isT
- This Aligns the North Dakota Tax Department will not recognize homestead tax credit as the definition of "income" for purposes of the credit with the definition of North Dakota taxable income.

Senator Bob Paulson, Minot, presented a resolution draft [23.3099.01000] relating to the support for the welfare, security, and survival of the state of Israel. He noted support for Israel is paramount, given recent global events.

In further discussion of the resolution, some committee members expressed solidarity with the Israeli people.

Other committee members expressed solidarity with the Palestinian people in addition to the Israeli people.

It was moved by Representative Boschee, and seconded by Senator Davison, that the resolution be amended to support all victims of the violence in Israel and also Palestinian-Americans.

After further discussion-of the motion, Representative Boschee withdrew his motion.

It was moved by Senator Myrdal, seconded by Senator Klein, and carried on a roll call vote that the resolution draft [23.3099.01000] relating to the support for the welfare, security, and survival of the state of Israel be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch, Josh Boschee, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Ben Koppelman, Emily O'Brien, Robinand Weisz; and Senators David Hogue, Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Jerry Klein, Janne Myrdal, Donaldand Schaible voted "aye." Representative Paul J. Thomas, and Senators Kathy Hogan, Timand Mathern voted "nay."

Senator Sean Cleary, Bismarck, and Representative Sanford, Grand Forks, presented a bill draft [23.1187.01000] relating to an appropriation to Bismarck State College and the authorization to convey real property owned by the state of North Dakota.

Senator Cleary noted:

- Bismarck State College currently supports the project with no state funding.
- The ability to bond now, as opposed to rather than waiting for the 2025 legislative session, is estimated to save Bismarck State College roughlyabout \$1.5 million.

Representative Sanford noted:

- -<u>Thethe bill\_draft</u> is necessary <u>asbecause</u> parties are <u>actively</u>-seeking to purchase property owned by the state <u>of North Dakota</u>, <u>which is</u> situated on the campus of the University of North Dakota.
- The parties' current interest in the property is conditioned on current land values and construction prices, which are subject to change over time.

It was moved by Representative Bosch, seconded by Senator Myrdal, and failed on a roll call vote that bill draft [23.1187.01000] relating to an appropriation to Bismarck State College and the authorization to convey real property owned by the state of North Dakota be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch, Josh Boschee, Dennis Johnson, Emily O'Brien, Robinand Weisz, and Senator David Hogue, voted "aye." Representatives Zachary Ista, Ben Koppelman, Paul J. and Thomas, and Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Kathy Hogan, Jerry Klein, Tim Mathern, Janne Myrdal, Donaldand Schaible voted "nay."

25.5061.03000 Legislative Management

Representative Greg Stemen, Fargo, presented a bill draft [23.1185.01000] relating to the Public Employees Retirement System defined contribution plans. He noted:

- The current law does not afford new hires the eligibility to enroll in the current defined contribution plan.
- This The bill draft would fix the legislative address the oversight by creating a parallel defined contribution plan to allow for variable contributions.

Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck, Wahpeton, presented a bill draft [23.1182.01000] relating to the an appropriation to the State Board of Higher Education for workforce education innovation funds. She noted:

- The bill <u>draft</u> provides an appropriation to the State Board of Higher Education for workforce education innovation funds which was.
- Workforce education innovation funds were not funded provided during the previous 2023 regular session.
- This The bill draft is necessary to address the mental and physical health emergency in North Dakota.

Representative Josh-Boschee, Fargo, presented a bill draft [23.1193.01000] relating to an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services for the childcare stabilization and recovery grant program. He noted:

- The bill <u>draft</u> appropriates \$110,000,000 <u>million</u> to the Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of continuing the childcare stabilization and recovery grant program.
- The appropriation will focus specifically on the improvement of the workforce relating to childcare.
- North Dakota needs roughlyabout 12,000 more childcare workers to meet its workforce demands.

In further discussion of the bill, some committee members expressed concerns about the ongoing childcare erisis in North Dakota.

It was moved by Representative Boschee, seconded by Senator Hogan, and failed on a roll call vote that bill draft [23.1193.01000] relating to the appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services for the childcare stabilization and recovery grant program be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representative Josh Boschee, and Senator Kathy Hogan voted "aye." Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Ben Koppelman, Emily O'Brien, Paul J. Thomas, Robinand Weisz, and Senators David Hogue, Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Jerry Klein, Tim Mathern, Janne Myrdal, Donaldand Schaible voted "nay."

Representative Josh-Boschee, Fargo, presented a bill draft [23.1196.01000] relating to an appropriation to the Department of Public Instruction for grants for school meals. He noted:

- The bill <u>draft</u> appropriates \$83,500,00083.5 million to the Department of Public Instruction for the purpose
  of providing grants to school districts to defray the expenses of providing meals, free of charge, for all
  students enrolled in public or nonpublic schools.
- Hunger is an issue for kids in all communities.
- This The bill draft would open free lunches to all children, rather than only and not just children under the federal poverty line.

Representative Josh Boschee, Fargo, presented a bill draft [23.1195.01000] relating to the establishment of the Roosevelt horse herd. He noted the bill draft:

- The bill draft establishes Establishes the Roosevelt horse herd in Theodore Roosevelt National Park and creates a misdemeanor offense for any personindividual who harms or harasses the horses.
- ThisThe bill draft is necessary as because these horses continue to be targeted for removal by the Theodore Roosevelt National Park Service.

It was moved by Representative Boschee, seconded by Senator Bekkedahl, and failed on a roll call vote

that bill draft [23.1195.01000] relating to the establishment of the Roosevelt horse herd be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike Lefor, and Josh Boschee voted "aye." Representatives Glenn Bosch, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Ben Koppelman, Emily O'Brien, Paul J. Thomas, Robinand Weisz, and Senators David Hogue, Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Kathy Hogan, Jerry Klein, Tim Mathern, Janne Myrdal, Denaldand Schaible voted "nay."

Representative Shannon Roers Jones, Fargo, presented a bill draft [23.1192.01000] relating to the creation of a workforce-forgivable student loan program. She noted the bill draft:

- The bill draft creates Creates a workforce-forgivable student loan program through the State Board of
  Higher Education and the Bank of North Dakota for the purpose of providing forgivable student loans to
  individuals who demonstrate financial need and who are enrolled at an institution under the control of the
  State Board of Higher Education.
- The bill draft also appropriates <u>\$10,000,000</u>\$10 million from the Office of Management and Budget to the newly created workforce forgivable student loan program.

Representative Brandy Pyle, Casselton, presented a bill draft [23.1189.01000] relating to an appropriation for a rapid population growth grant program. She noted:

- The bill <u>draft</u> appropriates \$4,500,000\$4.5 million to the State Treasurer for the purpose of a rapid growth grant program to distribute grant funds to a city with a population of at least <u>three thousand3,000</u> and a population increase of at least 35 percent from the 2020 decennial census to <u>the-July 1, 2022</u>.
- The city of Horace is one of the fastest growing towns and faces <u>an immediate</u> need <u>andfor</u> assistance for funding relating to school districts and city infrastructure.
- Horace is averaging approximately 200 new homes per year.

Representative Brandon Prichard, Bismarck, on behalf of Senator Jeffery Magrum, Hazleton, presented a bill draft [23.1157.01000] relating to permits for the construction of an electric transmission facility. He noted:

- The bill <u>draft</u> authorizes political subdivisions to issue permits for the construction of gas or liquid transmission facilities.
- This bill <u>draft</u> is urgent <u>asbecause</u> the Public Service Commission is <u>currently</u> issuing permits for these facilities.

Senator Scott Meyer, Grand Forks, presented a bill draft [23.1197.01000] relating to an income tax deduction for military pay. He noted the bill draft:

- This bill draft corrects Corrects an oversight of National Guard technicians from the income tax deduction for military pay.
- ThisThe bill draft is necessary as pecause the 2023 tax returns will be due after December 31, 2023.

In further discussion of the bill, some committee members expressed the desire to exempt all military pay from state income tax. Other committee members resisted the proposal because it falls out the scope of the special session.

It was moved by Senator Hogue, seconded by Representative Koppelman, and failed on a roll call vote that bill draft [23.1197.01000] relating to an income tax deduction for military pay be approved for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch, Josh Boschee, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Ben Koppelman, Emily and O'Brien, and Senator David Hogue, voted "aye." Representatives Paul J. Thomas, Robin and Weisz, and Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Kathy Hogan, Jerry Klein, Tim Mathern, Janne Myrdal, Denaldand Schaible voted "nay."

The committee discussed the procedure for determining which bills to consider for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Senator Myrdal requested a vote on the resolution draft-[23.3099.01000] relating to the support for the welfare, security, and survival of the state of Israel. Senator Hogue requested votes on the bill draft [23.1197.01000] relating to an income tax deduction for military pay and the bill draft [23.1190.01000] relating to income tax rates. Representative Koppelman requested a vote on the bill draft [23.1158.01000] relating to the possession of a firearm while on probation. Representative Boschee requested votes on the bill draft [23.1193.01000] relating to the appropriation to the Department of Health and Human-Services for the childcare stabilization and recovery grant program and the bill draft [23.1195.01000] relating to the establishment of the Roosevelt horse herd. Representative Bosch requested a vote on the bill draft [23.1187.01000] relating to an appropriation to Bismarck State College and the authorization to convey real property owned by the state of North Dakota.

It was moved by Representative Thomas, seconded by Senator Hogan, and carried on a roll call vote that the bills not requested for a vote by a member of the Legislative Management not be recommended for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike Lefor, Glenn Bosch, Josh Boschee, Zachary Ista, Dennis Johnson, Emily O'Brien, Paul J. Thomas, Robin Weisz; Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Kathy Hogan, David Hogue, Jerry Klein, Tim Mathern, Janne-Myrdal, Donald Schaible voted "aye." Representative Ben Koppelman voted "nay."

PROPOSED SPECIAL SESSION AGENDA

Ms. <u>Emily Thompson, Legal Division Director, Legislative Council, presented the House special session agendas for the special session House [link from agenda] and the Senate [link from agenda].</u>

Ms. Thompson presented the Senate agenda for the special session.

Ms. Thompson presented the Proposed House and Joint Rules Amendments <u>fRelating</u> to a <u>sS</u>pecial <u>sS</u>ession [23.9621.01000]. <u>link</u>

Ms. Thompson presented the Proposed Joint Rule Amendment <u>FRelating</u> to a <u>sSpecial sSession</u> [23.9622.01000]. <u>link</u>

Committee members asked Ms. Thompson whether the bills approved by the Legislative Management may be subject to amendment during the special session. In response to questions from the committee members, Ms. Thompson indicated that all noted:

- All bills introduced at the special session are subject to amendment, and it is the decision of the respective committees and houses whether to amend a particular bill. Additionally, if
- If asked by a committee chairman or <u>a</u> legislator, the Legislative Council will offer a response to determine whether an <u>proposed</u> amendment to a bill.

It was moved by Senator Klein, seconded by Senator Myrdal, and carried on a roll call vote that the bills drafts not requested for a vote by a member of the Legislative Management oted upon separately not be recommended for introduction at the special session commencing on October 23, 2023. Representatives Mike-Lefor, Glenn-Bosch, Josh-Boschee, Zachary\_Ista, Dennis-Johnson, Ben-Koppelman, Emily-O'Brien, Paul J. Thomas, Robinand Weisz; and Senators Brad-Bekkedahl, Kyle-Davison, Kathy-Hogan, David-Hogue, Jerry-Klein, Tim-Mathern, Janne-Myrdal, Denaldand Schaible voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

The committee discussed other special session arrangements.

No further business appearing, Chairman Lefor adjourned the committeemeeting at 3:22 p.m.

John Bjornson Director

ATTACH: