Revised
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NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

BUDGET SECTION

Wednesday, December 3, 2008
Senate Chamber, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

11:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call

11:05 a.m. Presentation by representatives of the Office of Management and Budget regarding:

- Status of the general fund
- Report on any tobacco settlement proceeds
- Executive budget revenue forecast for the 2009-11 biennium; one-time revenues, including beginning balance; deficiency budget requests; and proposed statutory changes affecting revenues
- Plans for the legislative revised revenue forecast on February 9, 2009
- Review of the appropriation bill format

11:45 a.m. Committee consideration of the following state agency requests, pursuant to NDCC Chapter 54-16, that have been authorized by the Emergency Commission and require consideration by the Budget Section:

- Racing Commission (Request #1687) - The request is to increase special funds spending authority by $76,089 from the racing promotion fund for Attorney General legal fees ($45,634) not included in the commission's 2007-09 biennium budget, a contingency for future legal fees ($12,000), and for settlement fees awarded by a district court in a civil case ($18,455).
- Public Service Commission (Request #1688) - The request is to increase the operating expenses line item by $100,000 of special funds from the agency's valuation fund to pay for expert assistance and other costs associated with analyzing and deciding public utility rate cases for regulated investor-owned utilities.
- Department of Commerce (Request #1689) - The request is to increase special funds spending authority by $19,600,000 to accept federal funds from the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 for the operating expenses line item ($1,960,000) and grants line item ($17,640,000) to provide financial assistance for the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes to benefit low-income citizens.
- Mill and Elevator (Request #1690) - The request is to increase spending authority by $4 million of other funds for the operating line item ($4 million) for higher than anticipated interest expenses related to market factors requiring a larger than anticipated operating line of credit with the Bank of North Dakota.
- State Department of Health (Request #1692) - The request is to increase the women, infants, and children (WIC) line item by $2,750,000 to accept federal funds from the United States Department of Agriculture WIC program for increased costs of the program.

- Veterans Home (Request #1694) - The request is for a line item transfer of $300,000 from the salaries and wages line item to the operating expenses line item. The transfer is for increased operating expenses related to contract nursing and other operating costs, including utilities, travel, and supplies.
- Secretary of State (Request #1696) - The request is to increase special funds spending authority by $165,520 for special funds deposited in the agency's general services operating fund for the salaries and wages line item ($67,757) for staff overtime related to increased demand for agency services and for the operating expenses line item ($97,763) for expenses associated with the agency's data processing information technology project.

12:00 noon Luncheon recess

1:00 p.m. Presentation by a representative of Economy.com regarding:

- Economic assumptions included in the executive budget revenue forecast for the 2009-11 biennium
- North Dakota economic outlook, including oil prices and agriculture commodity prices
- Impact of the state's oil industry on state revenues

2:00 p.m. Presentation by representatives of the Office of Management and Budget on the 2009-11 executive budget recommendations for:

- State employee compensation and benefits
- One-time budget investments
- Information technology projects
- Capital projects
- Use of bonding for capital projects and the impact of the limit on general fund lease payments
- Elementary, secondary, and vocational education
- Higher education institutions and the North Dakota University System office
- State Department of Health
- Department of Human Services, including the Developmental Center and the State Hospital
- Public safety agencies, including the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Highway Patrol
- Agricultural and economic development agencies, including the North Dakota State University Extension Service and the Agricultural Experiment Station
- Natural resource agencies, including the State Water Commission and the Game and Fish Department
- Department of Transportation and other state agencies and institutions

3:30 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Office of Management and Budget on specified commodities and services exempted from the procurement requirements of NDCC Chapter 54-44.4

3:40 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Department of Human Services regarding the status of the Medicaid management information system replacement project pursuant to Section 3 of 2007 Senate Bill No. 2024

3:50 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Veterans Home on the status of the Veterans Home construction project pursuant to Section 4 of 2007 Senate Bill No. 2418

4:00 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Industrial Commission regarding revenues and expenditures of the abandoned oil and gas well plugging and site reclamation fund; the geophysical, geothermal, subsurface minerals, and coal exploration fund; and the geologic data preservation fund to date for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2009, pursuant to Section 7 of 2007 House Bill No. 1060

4:10 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Game and Fish Department regarding a report on the recruitment and retention of hunters in North Dakota pursuant to Section 7 of 2007 Senate Bill No. 2017

4:20 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives

4:30 p.m. Adjourn

Committee Members

Committee membership will be announced during the organizational session, December 1-3, 2008.