

## NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

## Minutes of the

**LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT**

Wednesday, May 27, 2015  
Roughrider Room, State Capitol  
Bismarck, North Dakota

Senator Ray Holmberg, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Members present:** Senators Ray Holmberg, Tyler Axness, Jerry Klein, Donald Schaible, Connie Triplett, Jessica Unruh, Rich Wardner; Representatives Wesley R. Belter, Al Carlson, Bill Devlin, Jason Dockter, Kathy Hogan, Marvin E. Nelson, Kenton Onstad, Dan Ruby, Jim Schmidt

**Member absent:** Senator Mac Schneider

**Others present:** John Bjornson, Allen H. Knudson, John Walstad, Legislative Council, Bismarck  
See attached [appendix](#) for additional persons present

**It was moved by Senator Unruh, seconded by Representative Carlson, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the April 28, 2015, meeting be approved as distributed.**

Chairman Holmberg welcomed the attendees and outlined the procedure to be followed. He said there are 111 studies under consideration--16 of which are required and 95 of which are discretionary studies. He said during the 2013-14 interim there were 41 studies prioritized, during the 2011-12 interim there were 43 studies prioritized, 63 studies were prioritized during the 2009-10 interim, 53 studies were prioritized during the 2007-08 interim, and 44 studies were prioritized during the 2005-06 interim. He said his goal is to have 40 to 45 studies for this interim; therefore, around 25 of the discretionary studies should be approved. He said consideration should be given to what does the potential study do for the state? Does it provide new information or does it just give proponents an opportunity to advocate for more programming? Can the issue be solved by introducing a bill?

Chairman Holmberg said the procedure he planned to follow was to take up the various studies for consideration and to place them on lists to be approved, not approved, or in a "hold" category for further consideration. He said at the end of the day the Legislative Management will take a recorded roll call vote on those discretionary studies that are to be approved. He said Mr. John Walstad, Legal Services Division Director, Legislative Council, will be categorizing the studies for consideration of an interim committee structure. He said there were 25 committees last interim.

Chairman Holmberg called on the Director of the Legislative Council to review the documents that had been distributed and to make some announcements.

The Director indicated the purpose of today's meeting is to prioritize the studies for the 2015-16 interim and with approximately 25 to 26 interim committees, the number of studies prioritized should be around 40 to 45. He indicated the 64<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly created one new statutory committee--the Incarceration Issues Committee in House Bill No. 1015--and there are 12 statutorily established or recognized committees. He said each member has a binder that includes a document listing studies by subject matter and columns to indicate yes, no, or hold for each study; a document listing the studies to be considered arranged by bill or resolution number; and a document showing the resolution or bill section requesting the studies.

The Director said the agenda also includes establishment of the membership of the Budget Section for the 2015-16 interim to allow the committee to meet before June 30, and consideration of a motion authorizing the Chairman to prepare a committee structure and to send questionnaires to members of the Legislative Assembly regarding committee preferences. He said the Legislative Management will determine the committee membership for the selected committees at its June 16, 2015, meeting. He said the information regarding committee preferences will be sent by email to all legislators. In addition, he said, the Legislative Management should consider the 2017 legislative deadlines, including the meeting of the 2016 Organizational Session and the start date for the 65<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly.

Chairman Holmberg reviewed each of the proposed studies in the document listing the studies numerically. The Legislative Management then discussed each study, including the merits and reasons for proposed studies. Consideration was given as to whether to approve or not approve each study on the listing. The following is a chart listing the Legislative Management's final action on each of the 111 studies:

Yes	No	Hold	Bill or Resolution No.	Subject Matter
<b>Agricultural Issues</b>				
X			1028 § 1	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study provisions of Century Code that relate to agriculture, for the purposes of eliminating provisions that are irrelevant or duplicative, clarifying provisions that are inconsistent or unclear in their intent and direction, and rearranging provisions in a logical order
	X		1184 § 1	Consider studying the practice of veterinary medicine in this state, including any statutory and regulatory requirements and limitations, and the appropriateness of such requirements and limitations with respect to small animal, large animal, and research-focused practices
	X		2119 § 1	Consider studying requirements for the submission of financial statements, to the Public Service Commission, by public warehouses and grain buyers in this state, including the time and manner in which the statements must be submitted and confidentiality protections for the information contained therein
<b>Business Issues</b>				
X			1073 § 1	Consider studying required motor vehicle insurance
	X		1182 § 3	Consider studying public improvement issues relating to use of multiple bids versus single prime bids, bidding thresholds, design services thresholds, and indemnification
	X		2233 § 2	Consider studying public improvement issues relating to use of multiple bids versus single prime bids, bidding thresholds, design services thresholds, and indemnification
	X		3048	Consider studying potential opportunities for the creation and utilization of public-private partnerships at institutions of higher education within the North Dakota University System, for the purpose of creating software engineering and development programs
X			3049	Consider studying issues related to employment restrictions in public assistance programs
<b>Economic Impact Issues</b>				
X			1018 § 25	Consider studying issues related to the state's development of a civilian ground center. The issues include: deployable pilots, sensor operators, and aircraft; a central location for processing first responder data, including high definition, high-spectral, infrared, and thermal imagery, as well as electronic signals through cell phones and Internet service, generated from the deployment of unmanned aircraft and unmanned systems by first responders during federal, state, and local government responses to emergencies, natural disasters, emergency preparedness, and law enforcement activities; training services; data management, data analysis, data interpretation, and information routing approximating a real-time basis; and a repository of data and best practices for first responders at federal, state, and local levels.
X			1176 § 6	Consider studying the oil and gas tax revenue allocation formulas. The study must include consideration of current and historical allocations to political subdivisions and the appropriate level of oil and gas tax revenue allocations to political subdivisions based on infrastructure and other needs.
	X		2035 § 4	Consider studying the impact of large economic development projects on political subdivisions. The study may include a review of the current process for seeking out input from political subdivisions potentially impacted by a large economic development project and any mechanisms in place to address the potential impact.
<b>Education Issues</b>				
X			2031 § 29	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study content standards and assessments. The study must provide for a review of the content standards applicable to all grade levels in this state, from kindergarten through grade 12, in the areas of English language arts and mathematics; compare the content standards of this state to those of other states that are recognized as having high academic achievement levels; and review the standards development process. The study must review the purpose of general and alternate student assessments; examine the availability of existing and proposed assessment models; and examine the assessments utilized by other states that are recognized as having high academic achievement levels. The study must review those sections of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act [20 U.S.C. 6301, et seq.] that address standards, assessments, accountability, and

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				local flexibility, and any recent pertinent regulatory changes or policy statements issued by the United States Department of Education. The Legislative Council may seek assistance from individuals who are content specialists at the higher education level, individuals who are content and assessment specialists at the elementary or high school level, and other professionals, as necessary, to complete the directives of this section.
	X		1168 § 1	Consider studying provisions of Century Code that relate to education, for the purposes of determining the requirements for school districts to demonstrate a decline in enrollment
	X		2013 § 23	Consider studying school district transportation and state reimbursement for transportation
	X		2013 § 24	Consider studying teacher preparation and retention, including reasons new teachers leave the profession, federal requirements for teacher preparation programs, and possible enhancements to teacher preparation programs and other programs designed to improve retention of new teachers. As part of the study the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall prepare exit interview forms to be completed by school districts when a teacher separates employment. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall compile the information from the exit interviews and provide a report to the Legislative Management.
	X		2013 § 25	Consider studying the effectiveness and efficiency of educational service providers, including regional education associations, the Education Standards and Practices Board, EduTech, the Center for Distance Education, the North Dakota STEM Network, and the teacher center network. The study shall examine organizational, structural, administrative, and supervisory options for strengthening the role and function of the named entities and ensuring the optimal provision of services to students, teachers, schools, and school districts throughout the state.
X			2031 § 36	Consider studying the nature and scope of career and technical education opportunities available to students in this state, the manner in which such opportunities are financially supported, and the manner in which such opportunities are monitored to ensure that they provide students with 21st century technical skills that are aligned to industry standards, in addition to providing appropriate academic foundations
	X		2031 § 37	Consider studying teacher training programs in this state, including requirements for admission into a program, the requisite course of study, student teaching opportunities, and mentoring for new teachers. The study should also include an examination of collaborative efforts between schools of education and school districts in this state, and a comparative review of teacher training programs in other jurisdictions.
	X		3051	Consider studying all aspects of the development and implementation of the Common Core state standards, examine the strengths and weaknesses of the standards compared to those of other viable options, and clarify and define the role and function of this state in relation to the federal government with respect to the delivery of elementary and secondary education
X			4018	Consider studying the use of seclusion and restraint procedures in schools
<b>Election Issues</b>				
	X		1056 § 3	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of consolidating all political subdivision and school district elections with the statewide primary election and the holding of all special elections on other specified dates during any year. If the Legislative Management conducts the study, the Legislative Management shall seek input and participation from the Secretary of State; representatives of cities, counties, school districts, and other political subdivisions; and representatives of political parties.
	X		2002 § 7	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of consolidating all political subdivision and school district elections with the statewide primary election and the holding of all special elections on other specified dates during any year. If the Legislative Management conducts the study, the Legislative Management shall seek input and participation from the Secretary of State; representatives of cities, counties, school districts, and other political subdivisions; and representatives of political parties.
X			1302 § 1	Consider studying voter registration and policies to implement a system of voter registration, including provisions necessary to allow same day voter registration
X			1389 § 1	Consider studying issues relating to verification of citizenship status for the purpose of voting, including absentee and mail ballot voting
<b>Energy and Transmission Issues</b>				
X			2167 § 1	Consider studying the One-Call excavation notice system

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X			2276 § 1	Consider studying issues related to providing natural gas service to underserved communities in this state from available natural gas not otherwise committed in main gas transmission lines near those underserved communities
X			2372 § 1	Consider studying the impacts and costs of the federal Environmental Protection Agency regulations on carbon dioxide emissions for new and existing electric generation units. The study must include the regulations' estimated compliance costs on the industry, estimated impacts on regional grid reliability, estimated economic impact to ratepayers in this state, and the feasibility of implementing the regulations, including the proposed timeline. The study must also include an update on the status of technologies related to reduction of carbon dioxide emissions. The Legislative Management may consult with the Lignite Energy Council, State Department of Health, Public Service Commission, Attorney General, and other state and federal agencies as needed.
<b>Government Finance Issues</b>				
X			1083 § 1	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study the statutory and regulatory requirements placed on North Dakota state government agencies by United States government agencies as a condition of the receipt of federal funding to determine whether there are viable options to meet the needs of our state without having the federal government's oversight and involvement, which state needs can be met if federal funding associated with undesirable regulation or excessive direct and indirect costs is refused, and whether the benefit of accepting certain federal funds outweighs the benefit of participation in the federal programs
X			2015 § 40	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study the functions of the Budget Section. The study must review the duties and studies assigned to the Budget Section and the ability of the Budget Section to authorize financial decisions, including full-time equivalent positions, University System building projects, and project scope changes.
	X		1001 § 11	Consider studying the use of bonding to finance state building, road, and water construction projects. If conducted, the study must include consideration of the effect that financing state construction projects with existing oil revenue has had on both the construction industry and the oil and gas industry.
	X		1374 § 1	Consider studying of oil and gas put options, swap agreements, or other hedging strategies
X			3003	Consider studying state contributions for state employee health insurance premiums, including the feasibility and desirability of establishing a maximum state contribution for state employee health insurance premiums and the effect of losing the state's grandfathered status under the federal Affordable Care Act
	X		4007	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of implementing a Results First Initiative Program evaluation process in North Dakota
	X		4014	Consider studying reinvestment scenarios and potential priorities for legacy fund earnings
<b>Government Services Issues</b>				
	X		1009 § 3	Consider studying the maintenance and repair of state property and the source of funds to be used for maintenance and repair costs. The study must review current processes being used by state agencies to identify and address maintenance and repairs of state property and the appropriateness of the source of funds being used for these maintenance and repair projects.
X			1020 § 17	Consider studying the feasibility of placing the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute under the administrative authority of the Department of Transportation. If conducted, the study must identify potential efficiencies, potential issues, and current services or benefits provided to the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute by North Dakota State University.
	X		1469 § 1	Consider studying the provision of transportation services to veterans and the impact on those who provide or will provide free transportation services to veterans
	X		2002 § 6	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of the Secretary of State's office utilizing software which would allow employees of the office to monitor and report billable hours in order to improve efficiency and productivity within the Secretary of State's office
	X		2003 § 14	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of establishing a Medicaid fraud unit in the state. The study must include a review of the requirements for and the estimated costs and benefits of developing a Medicaid fraud unit as well as any statutory requirements and changes necessary for the realization of the full benefit of a Medicaid fraud unit. As part of the study, the Legislative Management shall seek input from the medical community, the Department of Human Services, and any other relevant professions.

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	X		2012 § 25	Consider studying the use of the structures and property of the Life Skills and Transition Center to determine the best and most efficient use of the properties. If conducted, the study must review the potential to transfer clients from the Life Skills and Transition Center to under-utilized facilities on the State Hospital campus or to a community-based setting. The study must also review potential alternative uses of structures on the Life Skills and Transition Center campus.
	X		3045	Consider studying the automation of State Library data as used to track items owned, orders made, bills paid, patrons who have borrowed, and options for transferring materials between libraries
	X		3055	Consider studying the feasibility and possible benefits of allowing members of the Legislative Assembly and other state employees to receive by electronic means all information regarding pay and benefits and other information shared by the employer and study the availability of recycling options in all state buildings
<b>Health Care Reform Issues</b>				
X			1378 § 1	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study the proposed and final federal rules issued by the federal Health and Human Services Department relating to the essential health benefits under the federal Affordable Care Act. Specifically, the study must include a review of the rules relating to the state's ability to participate in defining the state-based essential health benefits package for plan years 2017 and beyond, how the state may be authorized to select a benchmark plan for plan years 2017 and beyond, and the deadlines related to these rules and related decisions.
X			1035 § 1	Consider continuing its ongoing study of the needs and challenges of the North Dakota health care delivery system. The study may include monitoring the implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act, examining Medicaid Expansion and Medicaid reform, reviewing any impact on rural access to primary health care and emergency services, making recommendations to maintain and enhance rural primary health care and emergency services, and considering the feasibility of developing a state-based plan for a health care model that will comply with federal health care reform in a manner that will provide high-quality access and affordable care for North Dakota citizens. The University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences Advisory Council shall make periodic reports to the Legislative Management on the status of the biennial report developed pursuant to Section 15-52-04.
	X		2174 § 1	Consider continuing its ongoing study of the needs and challenges of the North Dakota health care delivery system
<b>Health Services Issues</b>				
X			1004 § 7	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of the University of North Dakota acquiring the building that houses the University of North Dakota forensic pathology center
	X		1455 § 1	Consider studying issues related to contract nursing agencies in the state
	X		2012 § 22	Consider studying the various telephone contact numbers supported by state appropriations to access information regarding services and programs available and determine if multiple numbers are necessary to respond appropriately to the residents of the state
X			3004	Consider continuing the study of medicolegal death investigation in the state and how current best practices, including authorization, reporting, training, certification, and the use of information technology and toxicology, can improve death investigation systems in the state
X			4004	Consider continuing the study of dental services in the state, including the effectiveness of case management services and the state infrastructure necessary to cost-effectively use mid-level providers to improve access to services and address dental service provider shortages in underserved areas of the state
<b>Higher Education Issues</b>				
X			1003 § 45	Consider studying the delivery methods of higher education courses offered by institutions under the control of the State Board of Higher Education. The study, if conducted, must include a review of current methods of distance education offered by institutions, options to improve delivery methods, revenue generated by each type of delivery method, and how course delivery methods may affect future campus infrastructure needs and must include study of the components of the higher education funding formula established in Chapter 15 18.2, including the uses of funding provided through each of the components for costs-to-continue, salary adjustments, and other inflationary adjustments and tuition waivers.
X			1003 § 46	Consider studying the missions of all two-year institutions and the missions of any other institutions under the control of the State Board of Higher Education, as determined by the Legislative Management, including the feasibility and desirability

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				of the institutions offering only workforce and career and technical education programs. The study must review the current missions of the institutions, current and projected course and program enrollments, projected workforce needs, including how the institutions can serve the needs, and options to increase operating efficiencies.
X			1003 § 47	Consider studying administrative costs at institutions under the control of the State Board of Higher Education. The study, if conducted, must review the number of administrator positions at each institution, the number of new administrator positions added at each institution during the previous five academic years, the total salaries and benefits associated with the administrator positions, the average salaries and benefits for administrator positions at each institution for each of the previous five fiscal years, the percentage of overall institution operating costs attributable to administration, and options to provide future increased legislative appropriations to institutions specifically for instructional purposes.
	X		1151 § 7	Consider studying the provision of matching grants to institutions of higher education, as set forth in Sections 15-10-48 through 15-10-53, for the purposes of ensuring that the statutory parameters provide sufficient direction, provide flexibility to accommodate changing circumstances and needs, and ultimately enable the delivery of the greatest possible benefits to the students attending institutions of higher education in this state
X			3046	Consider studying public higher education in North Dakota for the purpose of developing and implementing a governance model that articulates: the role and function of the State Board of Higher Education, and that of its Chairman and other members, including the board's objectives and the monitoring responsibilities necessary to ensure that its objectives are achieved; the role and function of the Commissioner of Higher Education, including the Commissioner's relationship with the board, the Commissioner's responsibility for implementing the board's objectives, and for meeting the board's expectations regarding organizational performance; and the role and function of each institution's president, including the authority and responsibility to supervise and direct the efficient operation of the institution, to execute all directives from the Commissioner of Higher Education, and to report directly to the Commissioner regarding the operation and management of the institution, and the execution of the directives
<b>Human Services Issues</b>				
	X		3005	Consider studying, utilizing an independent consultant if necessary, the system of care for individuals with brain injury, including services available and the implementation of new services and programs, the effectiveness of those services, and any gaps in services
	X		1256 § 12	Consider studying brain injury care, specifically gathering client data from all brain injury service providers under contract with the Department of Human Services, including information on brain injury type, age of consent, age of referral, number of brain injuries, and whether the individual was included or excluded from the service
	X		4006	Consider studying the impact of the marriage penalty within the supplemental security income program and the impact of the marriage penalty on retirement benefits under the Social Security Act
X			1279 § 1	Consider studying family caregiver supports and services. The study must identify policies, resources, and programs available for family caregivers and encourage additional innovative and creative means to support family caregivers so that they are able to continue to provide in-home support for older adults. The study must include input from stakeholders, including representatives of hospitals, social and clinical providers, advocacy organizations, tribal government, state and local agencies and institutions, and caregivers in this state. The study committee may receive testimony on the needs of family caregivers, including designation of caregivers, training, respite services, medical leave policies, and delegation of tasks to non-medical aides. The study must include an inventory of the resources available to family caregivers and may make any recommendations for administrative actions to support family caregivers. The Legislative Management may contract for consulting and coordination of study services.
	X		1215 § 1	Consider studying individual income tax credits available for qualified care expenses paid for the care of a qualifying family member
	X		2012 § 24	Consider studying services for children with autism. The study must include a review of services currently provided by the Department of Human Services, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and other state and local agencies, and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the continuum of care, transition between programs, and outcomes. The study must also identify current funding for these

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				programs and projected funding needs in future bienniums by funding source.
	X		1035 § 2	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of pursuing a behavioral health and addiction training initiative in response to concerns described in the behavioral health planning report prepared by Schulte Consulting, LLC, for the Legislative Management's 2013-14 Human Services Committee and in reports of the steering committee of the Behavioral Health Stakeholders Group. The study shall include exploration of opportunities for innovative public-private partnerships, and may include participation by public and private stakeholders, such as the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences and School of Law.
	X		2048 § 6	Consider studying mental health resources for youth and adults. The study must identify the populations that may benefit from a mental health resource network, the challenges and any deficiencies that may exist, and alternative resource delivery frameworks, and must provide details of how resource networks may be integrated into the existing mental health delivery system.
X			2048 § 7	Consider studying behavioral health needs. The study must include consideration of behavioral health needs of youth and adults and access, availability, and delivery of services. The study must include input from stakeholders, including representatives of law enforcement, social and clinical service providers, education, medical providers, mental health advocacy organizations, emergency medical service providers, juvenile court, tribal government, and state and local agencies and institutions. The study must also include the monitoring and reviewing of strategies to improve behavioral health services implemented pursuant to legislation enacted by the 64th Legislative Assembly and other behavioral health-related recommendations presented to the 2013 14 interim Human Services Committee.
	X		3056	Consider studying projections on the number of low-income individuals in the state over the next 10 years, the desirability and feasibility of developing and expanding asset-building opportunities for those individuals, ways to encourage and improve financial literacy among the people of this state, and ways in which the private sector can assist people in improving their financial stability
	X		4021	Consider studying how the institution for mental disease Medicaid reimbursement exclusion impacts this state, including the impact on Medicaid enrollees and on private and public sector providers
<b>Incarceration Issues</b>				
X			1015 § 4	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall create an Incarceration Issues Committee which shall study pretrial services, sentencing alternatives, treatment options, and other related issues. Section 3 of House Bill No. 1015 provides an appropriation of \$50,000 to the Legislative Council for 2015-17 biennium consulting services to assist with a Legislative Management study of incarceration issues.
X			1165 § 1	<b>(Required study)</b> Study, in conjunction with representatives of the executive and judicial branches and other stakeholders, justice reinvestment reforms. The Legislative Management shall participate with representatives of the executive and judicial branches and other stakeholders such as judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, victims' advocates, corrections staff, law enforcement agencies, and service providers to seek cost-effective and evidence-based strategies to enhance public safety and properly manage corrections and supervision populations. The Legislative Management shall cooperate with representatives of the executive and judicial branches to seek technical assistance as appropriate from the United States Bureau of Justice Assistance, The PEW Charitable Trusts, and the Council of State Governments' Justice Center to conduct the reform initiative.
	X		1106 § 1	Consider studying issues related to criminal defendants who are veterans or who are currently serving in the armed forces, including whether additional treatment and sentencing options should be considered if a defendant is suspected to have posttraumatic stress disorder or other behavioral health conditions; whether the additional treatment and sentencing options should apply to both misdemeanor and felony offenses and, if applied to misdemeanor offenses, the impact those additional cases would have on the courts and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; the point in the criminal proceeding at which the inquiry regarding the defendant's behavioral health condition should be made; what actions are being taken by other states' judicial and criminal justice systems to address similar issues regarding criminal defendants who are veterans or who are currently serving in the armed forces; and what steps the state needs to take to ensure that veterans and other armed forces personnel with posttraumatic stress disorder or other behavioral health conditions are best handled in the state's criminal justice system
	X		3002	Consider studying issues related to restitution for criminal acts

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<b>Information Technology Issues</b>				
	X		1395 § 1	Consider studying the benefit a statewide emergency information program would have on the current 911 and emergency services communication systems
	X		3028	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of the establishment of county or multi-county emergency response centers staffed around-the-clock by a core of emergency response professionals
	X		3039	Consider studying the software needs for all political subdivisions in the state to make specified tax, budgetary, and other public information available online and to determine the specific information that each city and county must provide
	X		4012	Consider studying the privacy, security, and data sharing laws in North Dakota, the effectiveness of federal privacy, security, and data sharing laws and the laws of other states, the interaction of federal and state laws, and whether current privacy, security, and data sharing protections meet the reasonable expectations of the citizens of North Dakota
<b>Justice Issues</b>				
	X		1367 § 5	Consider studying the return of property that comes into the custody of or is seized by peace officers across North Dakota
	X		1399 § 2	Consider studying the types of spousal support ordered by the district courts and the desirability of providing statutory guidance for awards of spousal support
X			3012	Consider studying the registration requirements for offenders against children and sexual offenders under Section 12.1-32-15
	X		4005	Consider studying judicial issues related to behavioral health, including 24-hour hold, termination of parental rights, and court committals
<b>Natural Resources Issues</b>				
X			1081 § 5	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study Game and Fish Department licenses provided to entities for the purpose of fundraising
	X		2017 § 4	Consider studying Game and Fish Department licenses provided to entities for the purpose of fundraising. The study must include a review of the present law in this and other states and the feasibility and desirability of allowing the Game and Fish Department to issue these licenses using procedures and within limits established by the Legislative Assembly.
	X		1004 § 8	Consider studying onsite sewage disposal in the state, including areas of the state lacking environmental programs to address onsite sewage disposal, lack of uniform standards for disposal, regulation authority, and the impact of onsite sewage disposal and waste management on industry and the public
	X		2356 § 1	Consider studying abandoned gravel pit reclamation practices. The study may address the feasibility and desirability of utilizing state funds for the reclamation of abandoned gravel pits and financially difficult reclamation projects on state and county lands, for the purpose of restoring land for farming, ranching, or other economic enterprises. The study may emphasize consideration of the potential economic benefit of restored land. The study may include consideration of current reclamation practices and standards for all North Dakota industries; use of the North Dakota outdoor heritage fund or other funds for financing; and input from departments, organizations, and associations with interest in reclamation practices.
	X		1013 § 7	Consider studying progress on the passage of federal legislation to return excess lands to the operation of the Oahe Dam in Emmons and Morton Counties, and to the state of North Dakota pursuant to Section 1 of House Bill No. 1456, as approved by the 64th Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Management shall seek the input and assistance of representatives of Morton and Emmons Counties, as well as the Army Corp of Engineers, in advancing the study and developing recommendations to achieve the passage of federal legislation.
<b>Political Subdivision Issues</b>				
X			2206 § 12	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall conduct a study to develop a proposed transition plan for transferring the costs of operating social services programs from county property tax levies to state general fund appropriations. A proposed transition plan must include a timeline for the major milestones of the transition plan, considerations for the transition, estimated costs, a plan to require a property tax reduction for the amount of the budgeted savings brought about by the transfer of county social services costs to the state, a plan resulting in the elimination of the county social services levy under Section 50-06.2-05, and potential legislation to implement recommended changes. The study must include consideration of the feasibility of implementing the proposed transition plan.
	X		1056 § 4	Consider studying statutory usage of various references to political subdivisions and the feasibility of differentiating references to political subdivisions based on whether the governing body is elected or appointed

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	X		1188 § 1	Consider creating a task force to study issues related to school district boundaries, including the feasibility and desirability of maintaining existing boundaries; the parameters currently governing annexation, reorganization, and dissolution processes; and options for instituting boundary changes in the case of significant educational or financial impacts. A task force created under this section is governed by Senate Bill No. 2300, as approved by the 64th Legislative Assembly.
	X		1340 § 2	Consider studying all statutory provisions on indebtedness that may be incurred by political subdivisions, whether or not subject to debt limitations
	X		2375 § 1	Consider studying the formation of community facilities districts for public improvements
	X		3037	Consider studying the current laws and rules relating to the sale of homemade food and homegrown produce and the policies and practices of local public health units and the State Department of Health regarding these sales and whether steps can be taken to make these policies more uniform throughout the state
	X		3040	Consider studying the Airport Authorities Act, with particular attention to airport finances
	X		4001	Consider studying the financial reports required by law to be compiled and filed by political subdivisions to determine whether they are being used to full advantage and whether they should be improved, consolidated, or eliminated
<b>Taxation Issues</b>				
X			2015 § 42	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study the current scientific and economic information regarding oil and gas recovery and enhanced recovery techniques, including the use of carbon dioxide, the timeline for implementing the techniques, and the estimated future annual economic impact, to evaluate existing and alternative tax incentives and recommend tax incentives that under current and foreseeable conditions, and within different oil formations, would best serve the interests of the state, political subdivisions, and fossil fuel energy production industries. Section 11 of Senate Bill No. 2015 provides an appropriation of \$400,000 to the Legislative Council for a 2015-17 biennium consultant study of oil and gas tax incentives and recovery techniques.
X			2318 § 4	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study the oil extraction tax exemption available for incremental production from a tertiary recovery project that uses carbon dioxide. The study must include consideration of the potential benefits and costs to industry, the state, and the environment of using carbon dioxide enhanced recovery methods. The Legislative Management shall secure assistance from the Energy and Environmental Research Center to analyze potential future usage of carbon dioxide in oil recovery operations in the Bakken and Three Forks Formations, the potential production and environmental benefits of that usage for energy industries in this state, the economic conditions in which that usage is feasible for oil producers, and the estimated fiscal effect of that usage for the state and political subdivisions.
X			2057 § 1	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study the analysis of economic development tax incentives as provided in Section 54 35 26
	X		1057 § 7	Consider studying delivery and contents of property tax information to taxpayers when the property assessment has been determined by the assessor, when the budget hearing will be held for each taxing district in which the property is located, and when the property tax statement for the taxable year is delivered. The study must consider the feasibility and desirability of changes to the timing of events scheduled by law for the taxable year and must consider improvements to the transparency, administration, and understanding of the property tax system.
X			1401 § 1	Consider studying sales and use taxation application for purchases by contractors on behalf of an exempt entity
	X		1476 § 8	Consider studying state-tribal tax agreements and allocation of revenues from centrally assessed property and property subject to payments in lieu of property taxes which is located on tribal trust lands
	X		2037 § 4	Consider studying wind generation taxation, including analysis of property, generation, sales, and income tax application and equity within the industry
<b>Transportation Issues</b>				
X			1012 § 10	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study the truck size and weight provisions under Chapter 39 12 relating to size, width, and height restrictions, in order to ensure the state of North Dakota may harmonize its truck size and weight regulations with the regulations of the states in the Western States Transportation Alliance, and shall utilize the findings of the collaborative study of the Department of Transportation and the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute to determine appropriate changes to state law

Yes	No	Hold	Bill or Resolution No.	Subject Matter
X			1377 § 5	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study truck permitting systems in oil and gas producing counties. The study must review the North Dakota Association of Oil and Gas Producing Counties' uniform county truck permit program, including the system's integration with the Highway Patrol's online electronic truck permitting and routing system and the communications between county representatives and industry representatives regarding road conditions. The study must evaluate the appropriateness of additional fees assessed by the board of county commissioners and other local authorities to the oil and gas industry related to additional road permitting fees and analyze other relevant data regarding uniform truck permitting fees and procedures. The study must include input from representatives of the North Dakota Petroleum Council, representatives of the North Dakota Association of Oil and Gas Producing Counties, and other interested persons.
	X		1012 § 19	Consider studying short line railroad expansion, spurs, switches, or other infrastructure enhancements and the effect of short line railroads on reducing commercial traffic on the state highway system
	X		1012 § 20	Consider studying the potential effect high-efficiency vehicles may have on the revenue generated from motor vehicle registration fees, special fuels taxes, special fuels excise taxes, and gasoline and gasohol taxes
	X		1065 § 1	Consider studying what, if any, current laws need to be changed to accommodate the introduction or testing of automated motor vehicles in North Dakota and any automated corridors affecting North Dakota
X			2015 § 41	Consider studying special transportation funding distributions to political subdivisions. The study must review distribution methods, including the feasibility and desirability of using Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute needs studies, county major collector miles, or a combination of both, if there are future special transportation funding distributions to political subdivisions, and must review options to ensure counties are reporting information consistently. The Legislative Management shall consider methods to ensure that road projects in each county are properly coordinated with state road projects and projects in adjacent counties. The study must also review the use of special transportation funding in comparison to the Legislative Assembly's intent.
	X		3036	Consider studying issues related to authorizing and issuing digital driver's licenses
<b>Tribal Issues</b>				
	X		2245 § 1	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of funding Indian veterans' service representatives to provide equivalent services to those provided by county veterans' service officers
X			3006	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of state, federal, and tribal collaboration in providing services for tribal youth in the state who are adjudicated in tribal courts
<b>Water Issues</b>				
X			1095 § 4	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall assign to the Water Topics Overview Committee the responsibility of studying the use of quick take in eminent domain by water resource districts. The study must include input from stakeholders, including the State Water Commission, water resource districts, and landowners.
X			2020 § 22	<b>(Required study)</b> Shall study options available for providing a sustainable water supply to central and eastern North Dakota
X			3020	Consider studying the impact on owners of land that has been inundated by rising waters in Devils Lake and Stump Lake
<b>Workers' Compensation Issues</b>				
	X		4019	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of procuring health insurance, workers' compensation insurance, or other benefits for volunteer firefighters, volunteer emergency medical service personnel, and volunteer ambulance workers across the state, including determining whether the community volunteers would be covered in the case of an accident or injury, the scope and conditions of coverage, and the overall cost to insure community volunteers

**It was moved by Representative Devlin, seconded by Senator Unruh, and carried on a roll call vote that the Legislative Management give approval to the list of studies placed in the approved category.** Senators Holmberg, Axness, Klein, Schaible, Triplett, Unruh, and Wardner and Representatives Belter, Carlson, Devlin, Dockter, Hogan, Nelson, Onstad, Ruby, and Schmidt voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

**It was moved by Senator Klein, seconded by Senator Triplett, and carried on a roll call vote that the membership of the Budget Section consist of similar membership as last interim--members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, the Minority and Majority Leaders and their assistants from both houses, and the Speaker of the House, and that Senator Gary A. Lee be Chairman and Representative Larry**

**Bellew be Vice Chairman.** Senators Holmberg, Axness, Klein, Schaible, Triplett, Unruh, and Wardner and Representatives Belter, Carlson, Devlin, Dockter, Hogan, Nelson, Onstad, Ruby, and Schmidt voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

The Director explained the 2017 legislative deadlines. The deadlines provide for the Organizational Session to be December 5-7, 2016, (Monday through Wednesday) and the 65<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly to begin on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

**It was moved by Senator Unruh, seconded by Senator Schaible, and carried on a roll call vote that the Legislative Management approve the 2017 legislative deadlines.** Senators Holmberg, Axness, Klein, Schaible, Triplett, Unruh, and Wardner and Representatives Belter, Carlson, Devlin, Dockter, Hogan, Nelson, Onstad, Ruby, and Schmidt voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

**It was moved by Representative Ruby, seconded by Senator Axness, and carried on a roll call vote that the Chairman be authorized to prepare a proposed interim committee structure and a questionnaire containing the proposed committee structure and to send the questionnaire to legislators to indicate their preference on interim committees.** Senators Holmberg, Axness, Klein, Schaible, Triplett, Unruh, and Wardner and Representatives Belter, Carlson, Devlin, Dockter, Hogan, Nelson, Onstad, Ruby, and Schmidt voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

Chairman Holmberg announced the next meeting of the Legislative Management would be Tuesday, June 16, 2015.

**It was moved by Senator Klein, seconded by Representative Carlson, and carried on a voice vote that the meeting be adjourned subject to the call of the chair.**

The meeting adjourned subject to the call of the chair at 1:30 p.m.

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Jim W. Smith  
Director

ATTACH:1