

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1342**

Introduced by

Representatives Kempenich, Holman, Silbernagel, Steiner

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 54-03-02, 54-03-02.1, and 54-35-16 of the  
2 North Dakota Century Code, relating to reconvened regular sessions of the legislative assembly  
3 in even-numbered years; and to provide an effective date.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-03-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **54-03-02. When legislative assembly meets.**

- 8 1. The legislative assembly shall meet at the seat of government in the month of  
9 December following the election of the members thereof for organizational and  
10 orientation purposes and shall thereafter recess until the time provided in  
11 subsection 2.
- 12 2. The legislative assembly shall reconvene at twelve noon on the first Tuesday after the  
13 third day in January of the year following the organizational session as provided in  
14 subsection 1 or at twelve noon on a date selected by the legislative management but  
15 not earlier than January second nor later than January eleventh of the year following  
16 the organizational session and, following the close of business of ~~the~~this regular  
17 session which may not exceed sixty natural days, shall adjourn subject to recess until  
18 the time provided in subsection 3.
- 19 3. The legislative assembly shall reconvene at twelve noon on a date selected by the  
20 legislative management but not earlier than January second nor later than February  
21 twenty-eighth of each even-numbered year. The number of natural days used for this  
22 regular session may not exceed twenty.
- 23 4. Notwithstanding a motion to adjourn sine die, the legislative assembly shall reconvene  
24 as determined by the legislative management. The number of natural days used may

1 not exceed the number of natural days available under the constitution which have not  
2 been previously used by that legislative assembly in regular session under  
3 ~~subsections~~subsections 2 and 3.

4 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-03-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **54-03-02.1. Definitions.**

7 For the purposes of this chapter and chapter 54-03.1:

- 8 1. "Organizational session" means the meeting of the legislative assembly for  
9 organizational and orientation purposes held during the month of December in the  
10 even-numbered years.  
11 2. "Regular session" means the legislative session commencing in January of the  
12 odd-numbered years and includes the legislative session commencing in January or  
13 February of the even-numbered years or any reconvened legislative session, as  
14 provided in section 54-03-02.

15 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-35-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
16 amended and reenacted as follows:

17 **54-35-16. Authority to determine if legislative assembly meets.**

18 The legislative management may issue a call for the legislative assembly to convene after it  
19 has adjourned ~~under subsection 2 of section 54-03-02.~~ The length of a legislative session called  
20 under this section may not exceed the number of natural days available under the constitution  
21 which have not been used by that legislative assembly. The legislative management may  
22 exercise this authority, and the legislative assembly shall meet, regardless of whether the  
23 motion to close the regular session of the legislative assembly was to recess to a time certain,  
24 adjourn to a time certain, or adjourn sine die.

25 **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act becomes effective on December 1, 2016.