



HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 12, 2026
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:30 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the minutes of the November 18, 2025, meeting
Comments by the Chairman

HISTORICAL HEALTH CARE MANDATES STUDY

9:35 a.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a [background memorandum](#) regarding the study of historical health care mandates

9:50 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Megan Hruby, Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota, regarding historical health care mandates

10:10 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Dylan Wheeler, Head of Government Affairs, Sanford Health Plan, regarding health care mandate improvement

10:30 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Rebecca Fricke, Executive Director, Public Employees Retirement System, regarding the health care mandate process

10:50 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Chrystal Bartuska, Life and Health/Medicare Division Director, Insurance and Securities Department, regarding health care mandates and essential health benefits

11:20 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Nathan Svihovec, North Dakota Government Relations Director, Essentia Health, regarding health care mandates, patients, and costs

11:40 a.m. Comments by interested persons

11:50 a.m. Committee discussion and directives

12:00 noon Recess

UNMET DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS STUDY

12:40 p.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a [memorandum](#) regarding historical policy factors in establishing a dental school

12:55 p.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding Medicaid dental outreach, engagement, improvement, and strategies

1:55 p.m. Committee discussion and directives

ELECTRONIC PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS STUDY

2:00 p.m. Presentation by a representative of Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota regarding electronic submission usage

2:20 p.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative of the North Dakota Hospital Association regarding provider electronic submission and challenges

2:40 p.m. Committee discussion and directives
2:45 p.m. Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.

Committee Members

Representatives: Carrie McLeod (Chairman), Karen Grindberg, Karen Karls, Lisa Meier, Jon O. Nelson,
Mitch Ostlie, Karen M. Rohr, Mary Schneider

Senators: Judy Lee, Tim Mathern, Kristin Roers, Desiree van Oosting

Staff Contact: Katie Carpenter, Counsel