



HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 6, 2026
Room 327B, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

- 9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the [minutes of the July 15, 2026, meeting](#)
- UNMET DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS STUDY**
- 9:05 a.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a bill draft relating to the Dentists' Loan Repayment Program
- 9:10 a.m. Presentation by Ms. Natalie Jung, Director, Primary Care Office, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding Dentists' Loan Repayment Program data and qualification criteria
- 9:20 a.m. Comments by interested persons and committee discussion
- 9:35 a.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a bill draft relating to reimbursement of preceptors supervising student dental rotations
- 9:40 a.m. Presentation by Ms. Cheri Kiefer, Director, Oral Health Program, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding the North Dakota Oral Health Program
- 9:50 a.m. Presentation by Ms. Kim Kuhlmann, External Affairs Manager, Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas, regarding preceptor reimbursement
- 10:05 a.m. Comments by interested persons and committee discussion
- 10:20 a.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a bill draft relating to oral health workforce and access initiatives
- 10:25 a.m. Presentation by Ms. Kuhlmann regarding oral health workforce and access initiatives
- 10:35 a.m. Comments by interested persons and committee discussion
- 10:50 a.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a bill draft relating to the fluoride varnish program and exceptions to the practice of dentistry
- 10:55 a.m. Comments by interested persons and committee discussion
- HISTORICAL HEALTH CARE MANDATES STUDY**
- 11:15 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Jon Godfread, Insurance Commissioner, and Ms. Chrystal Bartuska, Life and Health/Medicare Division Director, Insurance Department, regarding state health care mandates and federal updates
- 11:45 a.m. Committee discussion
- REPORT**
- 12:00 noon Presentation by representatives of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding a report summarizing the number of deaths that occurred in the state caused by or related to fentanyl consumption
- 12:15 p.m. Recess

PRESCRIPTION DRUG TRANSPARENCY REPORTING STUDY

- 1:00 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Andrew Askew, Vice President of Public Policy, Essentia Health, regarding federal and state activity related to the federal Drug Discount Program
- 1:30 p.m. Presentation by Dr. Mark Hardy, Executive Director, North Dakota Board of Pharmacy, regarding federal congressional activity related to the federal Drug Discount Program
- 2:00 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Jessica Lynch, Director of State Policy, PhRMA, regarding the federal Drug Discount Program and pharmaceutical manufacturers
- 2:30 p.m. Presentation by a representative of the Attorney General's office regarding an update on litigation related to the federal Drug Discount Program
- 3:00 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Mike Schwab, Executive Vice President, North Dakota Pharmacists Association, regarding the federal Drug Discount Program and pharmacies
- 3:30 p.m. Comments by interested persons
- 3:45 p.m. Committee discussion and directives
- 4:00 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Samantha Harding, Chief Executive Officer, Nelson County Health System, regarding rural emergency hospital designation and impact
- 4:30 p.m. Final committee discussion and directives and comments by the Chairman
- 4:45 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: Beth Dittus, Assistant Legal Division Director