



EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 13, 2026
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:30 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the [minutes of the February 25, 2026, meeting](#)

REPORTS

9:35 a.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative of the Department of Emergency Services of a [report](#) of the department's findings and recommendations from a consultant's report on the state's vulnerabilities relating to security threats posed by foreign adversaries

10:10 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Blaine Bergstedt, Director, Property and Casualty Division, Insurance Department, of a [report](#) on the feasibility, benefits, and challenges of providing towing and recovery costs associated with vehicle liability-only insurance for towing operations

10:30 a.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative of the Department of Health and Human Services of a report on the status of the Distressed Ambulance Service Program

11:00 a.m. Break

VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONDER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION STUDY

11:10 a.m. [Presentation](#) by a representative of the Governor's subcabinet on public safety regarding an update on the subcabinet's efforts to improve public safety in the state

11:30 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Matt Clark, State Fire Marshal, Insurance Department, regarding an update on the recent activities of the State Fire Marshal's office

11:45 a.m. Comments by interested persons

12:00 noon Recess

1:00 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Derrick Hohbein, Chief Financial and Operating Officer, Public Employees Retirement System, regarding the actuarial analysis of a bill draft relating to the volunteer first responder retirement plan

1:15 p.m. Comments from interested persons

1:30 p.m. Review of bill drafts and committee discussion:

- A [bill draft](#) relating to the volunteer first responder retirement plan
- A [bill draft](#) relating to special vehicle license plates for volunteer emergency responders
- A [bill draft](#) relating to designating service areas for emergency medical services
- A [bill draft](#) relating to the definition of volunteer

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2:50 p.m. Final committee discussion and directives
3:00 p.m. Adjourn

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

Committee Members

Representatives: Jim Grueneich (Chairman), Jayme Davis, Clayton Fegley, Pat D. Heinert, Dawson Holle, Karen Karls, Donald W. Longmuir, Dennis Nehring, Todd Porter

Senators: Greg Kessel, Diane Larson, Dale Patten, Donald Schaible

Staff Contacts: Casey Orvedal, Counsel
Keith Mantz, Fiscal Analyst