

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

### ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2180

Introduced by

Senators Paulson, Luick, Weston

Representatives Louser, D. Ruby, D. Johnston

*In place of the amendments (25.0269.02002) adopted by the House, Senate Bill No. 2180 is amended by amendment (25.0269.02003) as follows:*

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the opportunity to provide public comment at a meeting of a public  
3 entity.

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

- 5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Public comment - Regular meetings of ~~political subdivisions~~ a public entity.**

- 8 1. ~~At least one-fourth of the publicly noticed~~ Every regular ~~meetings~~ meeting of a ~~political-~~  
9 ~~subdivision held per year~~ governing body of a city, county, township, school district,  
10 ~~park district, or water resource district~~ must include an opportunity for an individual ~~in-~~  
11 ~~attendance~~ to provide public comment.

- 12 2. An individual providing comment at a meeting shall provide to the ~~political-~~  
13 ~~subdivision~~ governing body in writing the individual's name and address. ~~The~~  
14 ~~individual's address is an exempt record.~~

- 15 3. A ~~political subdivision may~~ governing body of a city, county, township, school district,  
16 ~~park district, or water resource district:~~

- 17 a. ~~Limit~~ May limit a public comment ~~by time~~ only as follows, except as provided in  
18 ~~subdivision b:~~

- 19 (1) ~~By time~~ per speaker, total time for public comment, or both.

(2) By agenda topic, to the agendas of the current and at least one preceding meeting.

b. ~~Develop~~ Shall develop a policy regarding public comment rules for regular meetings. The policy may provide a public comment:

(1) Must be pertinent to the ~~political subdivision~~ public entity.

(2) May not interfere with the orderly conduct of the regular meeting.

(3) May not be defamatory, abusive, harassing, or unlawful.

(4) May be prohibited if an alternative procedure exists to bring that particular type of public comment before the ~~political subdivision~~ public entity, the public comment includes confidential or exempt information, or the public comment is otherwise prohibited by law.