

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2319

Introduced by

Senators Magrum, Gerhardt

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to amend and reenact sections 54-03-02 and 54-35-16 of the North Dakota~~
2 ~~Century Code, relating to periodically reconvened sessions of the legislative assembly; and to~~
3 ~~provide an effective date for an Act to provide for a legislative management study relating to~~
4 periodically reconvened sessions of the legislative assembly.

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

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

8 ~~—54-03-02. When legislative assembly meets.~~

9 ~~—1.—The legislative assembly shall meet at the seat of government in the month of~~
10 ~~December following the election of the~~its ~~members thereof for organizational and~~
11 ~~orientation purposes and shall thereafter recess until the time provided in~~
12 ~~subsection 2.~~

13 ~~—2.—a.—The legislative assembly shall reconvene at twelve noon on the first~~
14 ~~Tuesday~~Friday ~~after the third day in January of the year following the~~
15 ~~organizational session as provided in subsection 1 or at twelve noon on a date~~
16 ~~selected by the legislative management but not earlier than January second nor~~
17 ~~later than January eleventh of the year following the organizational session and,~~
18 ~~following the close of business of the regular session~~following Sunday, ~~shall~~
19 ~~adjourn~~recess ~~subject to subdivision b and subsection 3.~~

1 ~~b. The legislative assembly shall reconvene, as determined by legislative~~
2 ~~management, for:~~

3 ~~(1) Three consecutive natural days each month except for December, on a~~
4 ~~Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; and~~

5 ~~(2) In addition to the natural days reconvened under paragraph 1, up to seven~~
6 ~~consecutive natural days each year.~~

7 ~~3. Notwithstanding a motion to adjourn sine die, the legislative assembly shall reconvene~~
8 ~~as determined by the legislative management. The number of natural days used may~~
9 ~~not exceed the number of natural days available under the constitution which have not~~
10 ~~been previously used by that legislative assembly in regular session under~~
11 ~~subsection 2.~~

12 ~~**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-35-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is~~
13 ~~amended and reenacted as follows:~~

14 ~~**54-35-16. Authority to determine if legislative assembly meets.**~~

15 ~~The legislative management may issue a call for the legislative assembly to convene under~~
16 ~~subsection 3 of section 54-03-02 after it the legislative assembly has adjourned under~~
17 ~~subsection 2 of section 54-03-02. The length of a legislative session called under this section~~
18 ~~may not exceed the number of natural days available under the constitution which have not~~
19 ~~been used by that legislative assembly. The legislative management may exercise this authority,~~
20 ~~and the legislative assembly shall meet, regardless of whether the motion to close the regular~~
21 ~~session of the legislative assembly was to recess to a time certain, adjourn to a time certain, or~~
22 ~~adjourn sine die.~~

23 ~~**SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act becomes effective on January 1, 2027.~~

24 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - PERIODICALLY RECONVENED**
25 **SESSIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative
26 management shall consider studying the use of periodically reconvened sessions of the
27 legislative assembly. The study must include consideration of the legislative assembly
28 reconvening, as determined by legislative management, for three consecutive natural days
29 each month except for December, on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and in addition up to
30 seven consecutive natural days each year. The study may include consideration of alternate
31 proposals for periodically reconvening and a review of the timing of the meeting of the

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- 1 legislative assembly for organizational and orientation purposes. The legislative management
- 2 shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to
- 3 implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.