

## JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE - SPECIAL SESSION

## Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly

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Bismarck, January 22, 2026

The House convened at 8:30 a.m., with Speaker Weisz presiding.

The prayer was offered by Pastor Keith Ritchie, Cornerstone Community Church, Bismarck.

The roll was called and all members were present except Representatives T. Brown and Schneider.

A quorum was declared by the Speaker.

## POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

REP. LEFOR rose on a point of personal privilege.

## REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE LEFOR

MR. SPEAKER:

I rise today to request a moment of silence for Rep. Cindy Schreiber Beck.

Cindy served the people of North Dakota in the House of Representatives for 12 years including as vice chair of the education committee and as a valued member of the agriculture committee.

She brought thoughtfulness, diligence and deep sense of responsibility to her work -- always focused on what was best for our students, our farmers and our communities.

Beyond this chamber, Cindy was a successful businesswoman and a true community leader. She understood the challenges facing everyday North Dakotans because she lived them, and she carried that perspective into her public service with grace and dignity.

Her legacy is one of service, leadership, and quiet determination. I ask that we honor her memory, her contributions and her commitment to this state with a moment of silence.

Thank you.

## REQUEST

REP. BOSCH REQUESTED that the remarks of Rep. Lefor be printed in the Journal, which request was granted.

## REPORT OF PROCEDURAL COMMITTEE

MR. SPEAKER: Your procedural Committee on Employment (Rep. Novak, Chairman) recommends the following House employees for the special session of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly:

## 2026 SPECIAL SESSION HOUSE EMPLOYEES

Buell Reich	<u>Chief Clerk</u>	Bismarck
Audrey Grafsgaard	<u>Journal Reporter</u>	Bismarck
Edwin Whetham	<u>Calendar Clerk</u>	Wilton
Mark Zimmerman	<u>Bill Clerk/Recording Clerk</u>	Bismarck
Dean Eberle	<u>Sergeant-at-Arms</u>	Bismarck
ReMae Kuehn	<u>Administrative Assistant to the Speaker</u>	Mandan

Ellen LeTang	<u>Administrative Assistant to the Majority Leader</u>	Mandan
Mary Monson	<u>Chief Page/Chief Legislative Assistant</u>	Osnabrock
Krystal Erbele	<u>Committee Clerks</u>	Bismarck

**REP. BOSCH MOVED** that the report be adopted, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

#### SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**SPEAKER WEISZ DEEMED** approval of the amendments to HB 1621, HB 1623, and HB 1624.

HB 1621, HB 1623, and HB 1624, as amended, were placed on the Eleventh order of business on the calendar.

#### SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL

**HB 1621:** A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 15.1-21-01 and section 15.1-21-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to requiring the presidential physical fitness test in physical education courses in elementary, middle, and high schools and providing exceptions to the test; and to provide an effective date.

#### ROLL CALL

The question being on the final passage of the amended bill, which has been read, and has committee recommendation of DO PASS, the roll was called and there were 90 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Anderson, K.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bolinske; Bosch; Brandenburg; Brown, C.; Christianson; Conmy; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Dressler; Fegley; Finley-DeVile; Fisher; Frelich; Grindberg; Grueneich; Hager; Hagert; Hatlestad; Hauck; Headland; Heilman; Heinert; Henderson; Hendrix; Holle; Hoverson; Ista; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Jonas; Karls; Kasper; Kempenich; Kiefert; Klemin; Koppelman; Lefor; Longmuir; Louser; Maki; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Meier; Mitskog; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Murphy; Nathe; Nehring; Nelson; Novak; Olson; Osowski; Ostlie; Porter; Pyle; Richter; Rios; Rohr; Ruby, D.; Ruby, M.; Sanford; Satrom; Schatz; Schauer; Skroch; Steiner; Stemen; Swiontek; Timmons; Toman; Tveit; VanWinkle; Vetter; Vigesaa; Vollmer; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz; Wolff

**NAYS:** Foss; Hanson

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.; Schneider

Engrossed HB 1621 passed.

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#### SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL

**HB 1624:** A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 15.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to offering school breakfast and lunch at no cost and the school meals fund; to provide an appropriation; to provide for a transfer; and to provide an effective date.

#### ROLL CALL

The question being on the final passage of the amended bill, which has been read, and has committee recommendation of DO PASS, the roll was called and there were 55 YEAS, 38 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bosch; Brandenburg; Brown, C.; Conmy; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Finley-DeVile; Foss; Grindberg; Grueneich; Hager; Hanson; Hatlestad; Heilman; Heinert; Hendrix; Holle; Ista; Jonas; Karls; Kempenich; Kiefert; Lefor; Longmuir; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Meier; Mitskog; Nathe; Nelson; Novak; Ostlie; Porter; Pyle; Richter; Ruby, M.; Sanford;

Satrom; Schauer; Schneider; Steiner; Stemen; Swiontek; Toman; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz

**NAYS:** Anderson, K.; Bolinske; Christianson; Dressler; Fegley; Fisher; Frelich; Hagert; Hauck; Headland; Henderson; Hoverson; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Kasper; Klemin; Koppelman; Louser; Maki; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Murphy; Nehring; Olson; Osowski; Rios; Rohr; Ruby, D.; Schatz; Skroch; Timmons; Tveit; VanWinkle; Vetter; Vigesaa; Vollmer; Wolff

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.

Engrossed HB 1624 passed.

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#### **MOTION**

**SPEAKER WEISZ ANNOUNCED** that the House will stand in recess for 10 minutes.

**THE HOUSE RECONVENED** pursuant to recess taken, with Speaker Weisz presiding.

#### **SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL**

**HB 1623:** A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of health and human services for federal rural health transformation program grant funds; to provide an appropriation to the Bank of North Dakota to administer a loan program; to provide a transfer; to amend and reenact section 6-09-47 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a rural health loan program under the medical facility infrastructure loan fund; to provide an exemption; to provide for a legislative management report; to provide for application; to provide a report; and to provide an effective date.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**REP. PORTER STATED** that he had a personal or private interest in Engrossed HB 1623.

#### **MOTION**

**REP. BOSCH MOVED** that Rep. Porter be excused from voting on Engrossed HB 1623, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

#### **ROLL CALL**

The question being on the final passage of the amended bill, which has been read, and has committee recommendation of DO PASS, the roll was called and there were 90 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Anderson, K.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bolinske; Bosch; Brandenburg; Brown, C.; Christianson; Conmy; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Dressler; Fegley; Finley-DeVile; Fisher; Foss; Frelich; Grindberg; Grueneich; Hager; Hagert; Hanson; Hatlestad; Hauck; Headland; Heilman; Heinert; Henderson; Hendrix; Holle; Ista; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Jonas; Karls; Kasper; Kempenich; Kiefert; Klemin; Koppelman; Lefor; Longmuir; Louser; Maki; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Meier; Mitskog; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Murphy; Nathe; Nehring; Nelson; Novak; Olson; Osowski; Ostlie; Pyle; Richter; Rios; Rohr; Ruby, D.; Ruby, M.; Sanford; Satrom; Schatz; Schauer; Schneider; Skroch; Steiner; Stemen; Swiontek; Timmons; Toman; Tveit; Vetter; Vigesaa; Vollmer; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz; Wolff

**NAYS:** Hoverson; VanWinkle

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.; Porter

Engrossed HB 1623 passed.

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#### **SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL**

**HB 1622:** A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 43-17.5 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the physician assistant licensure compact; to amend and reenact section 43-17-01, subsection 1 of section 43-17-02.1, and sections 43-17-02.2 and

43-17-46 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the requirements of physician assistants privileged to practice under the physician assistant licensure compact; and to provide an effective date.

#### ROLL CALL

The question being on the final passage of the bill, which has been read, and has committee recommendation of DO PASS, the roll was called and there were 93 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Anderson, K.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bolinske; Bosch; Brandenburg; Brown, C.; Christianson; Conmy; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Dressler; Fegley; Finley-DeVile; Fisher; Foss; Frelich; Grindberg; Grueneich; Hager; Hagert; Hanson; Hatlestad; Hauck; Headland; Heilman; Heinert; Henderson; Hendrix; Holle; Hoverson; Ista; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Jonas; Karls; Kasper; Kempenich; Kiefert; Klemm; Koppelman; Lefor; Longmuir; Louser; Maki; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Meier; Mitskog; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Murphy; Nathe; Nehring; Nelson; Novak; Olson; Osowski; Ostlie; Porter; Pyle; Richter; Rios; Rohr; Ruby, D.; Ruby, M.; Sanford; Satrom; Schatz; Schauer; Schneider; Skroch; Steiner; Stemen; Swiontek; Timmons; Toman; Tveit; VanWinkle; Vetter; Vigasaa; Vollmer; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz; Wolff

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.

HB 1622 passed.

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#### SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL

**HB 1625:** A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15-10-64 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the sale of the Ray Richards golf course; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

#### ROLL CALL

The question being on the final passage of the bill, which has been read, and has committee recommendation of DO PASS, the roll was called and there were 93 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Anderson, K.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bolinske; Bosch; Brandenburg; Brown, C.; Christianson; Conmy; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Dressler; Fegley; Finley-DeVile; Fisher; Foss; Frelich; Grindberg; Grueneich; Hager; Hagert; Hanson; Hatlestad; Hauck; Headland; Heilman; Heinert; Henderson; Hendrix; Holle; Hoverson; Ista; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Jonas; Karls; Kasper; Kempenich; Kiefert; Klemm; Koppelman; Lefor; Longmuir; Louser; Maki; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Meier; Mitskog; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Murphy; Nathe; Nehring; Nelson; Novak; Olson; Osowski; Ostlie; Porter; Pyle; Richter; Rios; Rohr; Ruby, D.; Ruby, M.; Sanford; Satrom; Schatz; Schauer; Schneider; Skroch; Steiner; Stemen; Swiontek; Timmons; Toman; Tveit; VanWinkle; Vetter; Vigasaa; Vollmer; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz; Wolff

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.

HB 1625 passed.

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#### SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL

**HB 1626:** A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subdivision d of subsection 1 of section 57-02-08.9, section 57-20-09, and subsection 1 of section 57-55-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to application of the primary residence credit and discount for early payment of tax; and to provide an effective date.

#### ROLL CALL

The question being on the final passage of the bill, which has been read, and has committee recommendation of DO PASS, the roll was called and there were 93 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Anderson, K.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bolinske; Bosch; Brandenburg; Brown, C.; Christianson; Conmy; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Dressler; Fegley; Finley-DeVile; Fisher; Foss; Frelich; Grindberg; Grueneich; Hager; Hagert; Hanson; Hatlestad; Hauck; Headland; Heilman; Heinert; Henderson; Hendrix; Holle; Hoverson; Ista; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Jonas; Karls; Kasper; Kempenich; Kiefert; Klemin; Koppelman; Lefor; Longmuir; Louser; Maki; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Meier; Mitskog; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Murphy; Nathe; Nehring; Nelson; Novak; Olson; Osowski; Ostlie; Porter; Pyle; Richter; Rios; Rohr; Ruby, D.; Ruby, M.; Sanford; Satrom; Schatz; Schauer; Schneider; Skroch; Steiner; Stemen; Swiontek; Timmons; Toman; Tveit; VanWinkle; Vetter; Vigesaa; Vollmer; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz; Wolff

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.

HB 1626 passed.

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### SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL

**HB 1627:** A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of public instruction to provide school meals at no cost to eligible students; and to provide an effective date.

### ROLL CALL

The question being on the final passage of the bill, which has been read, and is PLACED ON THE CALENDAR WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION, the roll was called and there were 45 YEAS, 48 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Bolinske; Brown, C.; Christianson; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Dressler; Finley-DeVile; Frelich; Grueneich; Hager; Hanson; Hauck; Headland; Heilman; Henderson; Hendrix; Holle; Hoverson; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Kempenich; Kiefert; Koppelman; Meier; Mitskog; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Nehring; Novak; Olson; Osowski; Rios; Rohr; Ruby, D.; Ruby, M.; Schatz; Skroch; Steiner; Timmons; VanWinkle; Vetter; Vigesaa; Wolff

**NAYS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Anderson, K.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bosch; Brandenburg; Conmy; Fegley; Fisher; Foss; Grindberg; Hagert; Hatlestad; Heinert; Ista; Jonas; Karls; Kasper; Klemin; Lefor; Longmuir; Louser; Maki; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Murphy; Nathe; Nelson; Ostlie; Porter; Pyle; Richter; Sanford; Satrom; Schauer; Schneider; Stemen; Swiontek; Toman; Tveit; Vollmer; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.

HB 1627 failed.

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### SECOND READING OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

**HCR 3038:** A concurrent resolution to recognize and congratulate the Young Men's Christian Association on its 175th anniversary.

### ROLL CALL

The question being on the final adoption of the resolution, which has been read, and has committee recommendation of DO PASS. The roll was called and there were 93 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

**YEAS:** Anderson, B.; Anderson, D.; Anderson, K.; Bahl; Beltz; Berg; Bolinske; Bosch; Brandenburg; Brown, C.; Christianson; Conmy; Davis; Dobervich; Dockter; Dressler; Fegley; Finley-DeVile; Fisher; Foss; Frelich; Grindberg; Grueneich; Hager; Hagert; Hanson; Hatlestad; Hauck; Headland; Heilman; Heinert; Henderson; Hendrix; Holle; Hoverson; Ista; Johnson, J.; Johnston, D.; Jonas; Karls; Kasper; Kempenich; Kiefert; Klemin; Koppelman; Lefor; Longmuir; Louser; Maki; Marschall; Martinson; McLeod; McNally; Meier; Mitskog; Monson; Morton; Motschenbacher; Murphy; Nathe; Nehring; Nelson; Novak; Olson; Osowski; Ostlie; Porter; Pyle; Richter; Rios; Rohr;

Ruby, D.; Ruby, M.; Sanford; Satrom; Schatz; Schauer; Schneider; Skroch; Steiner; Stemen; Swiontek; Timmons; Toman; Tveit; VanWinkle; Vetter; Vigessaa; Vollmer; Wagner; Warrey; Weisz; Wolff

**ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING:** Brown, T.

HCR 3038 was declared adopted on a recorded roll call vote.

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**MESSAGE TO THE SENATE FROM THE HOUSE (BUELL J. REICH, CHIEF CLERK)**

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** The House has passed, and your favorable consideration is requested on: HB 1621, HB 1622, HB 1623, HB 1624, HB 1625, HB 1626.

**MESSAGE TO THE SENATE FROM THE HOUSE (BUELL J. REICH, CHIEF CLERK)**

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** The House has passed, and your favorable consideration is requested on: HCR 3038.

**MESSAGE TO THE SENATE FROM THE HOUSE (BUELL J. REICH, CHIEF CLERK)**

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** The House has failed to pass: HB 1627.

**MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE FROM THE SENATE (SHANDA MORGAN, SECRETARY)**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Senate has passed, and your favorable consideration is requested on: SB 2401, SB 2402, SB 2403, SB 2404.

**MOTION**

**REP. BOSCH MOVED** that the absent members be excused, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

**MOTION**

**REP. BOSCH MOVED** that the House be on the Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, Ninth, and Thirteenth orders of business and at the conclusion of those orders, the House stand adjourned until 9:00 a.m., Friday, January 23, 2026, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

**FIRST READING OF SENATE BILLS**

**SB 2401:** A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new subdivision to subsection 2 of section 12-60-24 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to criminal history record checks by the board of occupational therapy practice; to amend and reenact section 43-17-27.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to physician continuing education requirements; to provide a statement of legislative intent; and to provide an effective date.

Was read the first time and referred to the **Joint Policy Committee**.

**SB 2402:** A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 43-15 and a new subsection to section 43-48-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the prescriptive authority of pharmacists and therapeutic substitution; to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 26.1-36.11-01 and section 43-15-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the scope of practice of pharmacists; to repeal section 43-15-25.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to approved laboratory tests; and to provide an effective date.

Was read the first time and referred to the **Joint Policy Committee**.

**SB 2403:** A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 6-09-47 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a medical facility emergency operating loan program under the medical facility infrastructure loan fund; to provide an appropriation; to provide a transfer; to provide an effective date; and to provide an expiration date.

Was read the first time and referred to the **Joint Appropriations Committee**.

**SB 2404:** A BILL for an Act to provide appropriations to the information technology department and public service commission; to provide contingent loan authorization; and to provide an effective date.

Was read the first time and referred to the **Joint Appropriations Committee**.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
SB 2401**

**Joint Policy Committee (Rep. M. Ruby, Co-Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1384.01001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2401 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
SB 2402**

**Joint Policy Committee (Rep. M. Ruby, Co-Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1386.01003](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2402 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
SB 2403**

**Joint Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Co-Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1408.01001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (22 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2403 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
SB 2404 ([25.1413.01000](#))**

**Joint Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Co-Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS** (23 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2404 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

The House stood adjourned pursuant to Representative Bosch's motion.

**Buell J. Reich, Chief Clerk**

