

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE - SPECIAL SESSION

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly

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Bismarck, January 22, 2026

The Senate convened at 8:30 a.m., with President Strinden presiding.

The prayer was offered by Pastor Rich Wyatt, Living Hope Church of the Nazarene, Bismarck.

The roll was called and all members were present except Senator Axtman.

A quorum was declared by the President.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2403**

Joint Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Co-Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS (25.1408.01001)** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (15 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2403 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

REPORT OF PROCEDURAL COMMITTEE

MADAM PRESIDENT: Your procedural **Committee on Employment (Sen. Dever, Chairman)** recommends the following Senate employees for the special session of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly:

2026 SPECIAL SESSION SENATE EMPLOYEES

Shanda Morgan	<u>Secretary of the Senate</u>	Bismarck
Dennis Rodin	<u>Journal Reporter</u>	Bismarck
Mary Brucker	<u>Calendar Clerk</u>	Bismarck
Michael Rogstad	<u>Bill Clerk/Recording Clerk</u>	Bismarck
John Strand	<u>Sergeant-at-Arms</u>	Bismarck
Carrie Paulson	<u>Legislative Assistant</u>	Minot
Renaë Doan	<u>Administrative Assistant to the Majority Leader</u>	McKenzie
Kathy Wachter	<u>Administrative Assistant to the Minority Leader</u>	Bismarck
Andrew Ficek	<u>Committee Clerks</u>	Bismarck

SEN. KLEIN MOVED that the report be adopted, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS

SB 2401: SEN. MYRDAL (Joint Policy Committee) MOVED that the amendments **(25.1384.01001)** be adopted and then be placed on the Eleventh order with **DO PASS**, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

SECOND READING OF SENATE BILL

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.

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 44 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

YEAS: Barta; Beard; Bekkedahl; Boehm; Boschee; Braunberger; Burckhard; Castaneda; Cleary; Conley; Cory; Davison; Dever; Dwyer; Enget; Erbele; Gerhardt; Hogan; Hogue; Kessel; Klein; Larson; Lee; Lemm; Luick; Marcellais; Mathern; Meyer; Myrdal; Patten; Paulson; Powers; Roers; Rummel; Schaible; Sickler; Sorvaag; Thomas; Walen; Wanzek; Weber; Weston; Wobbema; van Oosting

NAYS: Clemens; Magrum

ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING: Axtman

Engrossed SB 2401 passed.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS

SB 2402: SEN. ROERS (Joint Policy Committee) MOVED that the amendments ([25.1386.01003](#)) be adopted and then be placed on the Eleventh order with **DO PASS**, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

SECOND READING OF SENATE BILL

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.

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 46 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

YEAS: Barta; Beard; Bekkedahl; Boehm; Boschee; Braunberger; Burckhard; Castaneda; Cleary; Clemens; Conley; Cory; Davison; Dever; Dwyer; Enget; Erbele; Gerhardt; Hogan; Hogue; Kessel; Klein; Larson; Lee; Lemm; Luick; Magrum; Marcellais; Mathern; Meyer; Myrdal; Patten; Paulson; Powers; Roers; Rummel; Schaible; Sickler; Sorvaag; Thomas; Walen; Wanzek; Weber; Weston; Wobbema; van Oosting

ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING: Axtman

Engrossed SB 2402 passed.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS

SB 2403: SEN. SCHAIBLE (Joint Appropriations Committee) MOVED that the amendments ([25.1408.01001](#)) be adopted and then be placed on the Eleventh order with **DO PASS**, which motion prevailed on a voice vote.

SECOND READING OF SENATE BILL

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.

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 46 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

YEAS: Barta; Beard; Bekkedahl; Boehm; Boschee; Braunberger; Burckhard; Castaneda; Cleary; Clemens; Conley; Cory; Davison; Dever; Dwyer; Enget; Erbele; Gerhardt; Hogan; Hogue; Kessel; Klein; Larson; Lee; Lemm; Luick; Magrum; Marcellais; Mathern; Meyer; Myrdal; Patten; Paulson; Powers; Roers; Rummel; Schaible; Sickler; Sorvaag; Thomas; Walen; Wanzek; Weber; Weston; Wobbema; van Oosting

ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING: Axtman

Engrossed SB 2403 passed.

SECOND READING OF SENATE BILL

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.

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 46 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING.

YEAS: Barta; Beard; Bekkedahl; Boehm; Boschee; Braunberger; Burckhard; Castaneda; Cleary; Clemens; Conley; Cory; Davison; Dever; Dwyer; Enget; Erbele; Gerhardt; Hogan; Hogue; Kessel; Klein; Larson; Lee; Lemm; Luick; Magrum; Marcellais; Mathern; Meyer; Myrdal; Patten; Paulson; Powers; Roers; Rummel; Schaible; Sickler; Sorvaag; Thomas; Walen; Wanzek; Weber; Weston; Wobbema; van Oosting

ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING: Axtman

SB 2404 passed.

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.

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.

MOTION

SEN. KLEIN MOVED that the absent member be excused, which motion prevailed.

MOTION

SEN. KLEIN MOVED that the Senate be on the Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, Thirteenth, and Fifteenth orders of business and at the conclusion of those orders, the Senate stand adjourned until 8:30 a.m., Friday, January 23, 2026, which motion prevailed.

FIRST READING OF HOUSE BILLS

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

FIRST READING OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE HB 1621

Joint Policy Committee (Sen. Lee, Co-Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1383.01004](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (12 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1621 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE HB 1622 ([25.1385.01000](#))

Joint Policy Committee (Sen. Lee, Co-Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1622 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE HB 1623

Joint Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Co-Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1392.01005](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1623 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1624**

Joint Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Co-Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS (25.1395.03007)** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (8 YEAS, 7 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1624 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1625 (25.1396.02000)**

Joint Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Co-Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (16 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1625 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1626 (25.1400.01000)**

Joint Policy Committee (Sen. Lee, Co-Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 1 NAY, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1626 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HCR 3038 (25.3120.01000)**

Joint Policy Committee (Sen. Lee, Co-Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3038 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This resolution does not affect workforce development.

The Senate stood adjourned pursuant to Senator Klein's motion.

Shanda Morgan, Secretary

