

# North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL  
600 EAST BOULEVARD  
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



Legislative Assembly

## Representative Steve Vetter

District 18  
804 South 17th Street  
Grand Forks, ND 58201-4241  
[smvetter@ndlegis.gov](mailto:smvetter@ndlegis.gov)

## COMMITTEES:

Judiciary (Vice Chair)  
Government and Veterans Affairs

Chairman Schauer and GVA committee,

my name is Steve Vetter from district 18 which is Grand Forks along the Red River to Manvel.

This is study bill the proposes to wages. Pay levels of state employees and history of pay levels, comparing state wages with private sector wages. The use of equity funding and bonuses to retain employees. Consideration of the payment of prevailing wage for state jobs, consideration of wages paid when awarding state contracts.

We hear different stories on how well state employees are getting paid, but what are facts. Future legislative bodies would benefit and would be able to make more informed decisions with accurate and up to date information.

Let's look at the history and then have comparisons with the private sector. In this way we will also be able to compare bonuses and compensation with the private sector. Certain jobs may need additional incentives to retain employees especially for the financial investment jobs and the attorneys in legislative counsel and the attorney general's office.

What about the workers who work on state jobs? We tell people we want to invest in North Dakota. What better way to invest in North Dakota than to invest in workers that work on state projects. Paying prevailing wage allows local workers to work on those projects instead of out of state workers. And lastly, should we consider wage levels when awarding contracts for state jobs. You heard the criteria on a bill earlier today. Shouldn't that be a consideration.

Members of the committee, this would be a great study to get future legislators needed information.

Please vote for a Do Pass recommendation. Thank you. I will stand for questions.