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Title.
Fiscal No. 1

Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Senate Appropriations - Human
Resources Division Committee
February 5, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2004

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the ethics
2 commission.

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

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds
5 as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state
6 treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to the ethics commission for the purpose of defraying the
7 expenses of the ethics commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending
8 June 30, 2027, as follows:

	<u>Base Level</u>	<u>Adjustments or Enhancements</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
11 Ethics commission	\$1,041,374	\$0	\$1,041,374
12 Total general fund	\$1,041,374	\$0	\$1,041,374
13 Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00
14 Ethics commission	\$1,041,374	\$308,563	\$1,349,937
15 New and vacant FTE pool	0	246,304	246,304
16 Total general fund	\$1,041,374	\$554,867	\$1,596,241
17 Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	1.00	4.00

18 **SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO**
19 **SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** The following amounts reflect the one-time funding
20 items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly

1 base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which the entity shall report to the appropriations
2 committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

3 <u>One-Time Funding Description</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
4 Case management system	\$50,000
5 Office furniture	2,348
6 New FTE position one-time costs	<u>5,484</u>
7 Total	\$57,832

8 **SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST.** The
9 ethics commission may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool line item
10 in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to transfer funds
11 from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the ethics commission line item in accordance
12 with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the
13 sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

Senate Bill No. 2004 - Ethics Commission - Senate Action

	Base Budget	Senate Changes	Senate Version
New and vacant FTE pool Ethics Commission	\$1,041,374	\$246,304 308,563	\$246,304 1,349,937
Total all funds	\$1,041,374	\$554,867	\$1,596,241
Less estimated income General fund	0	0	0
	\$1,041,374	\$554,867	\$1,596,241
FTE	3.00	1.00	4.00

Department 195 - Ethics Commission - Detail of Senate Changes

	Adds Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases ¹	Adds Funding to Replace 2023-25 New and Vacant FTE Pool ²	Transfers Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool ³	Adds Education and Communication Position ⁴	Increases Commissioner and Temporary Salary Funding ⁵	Increases Operating Funding ⁶
New and vacant FTE pool Ethics Commission	\$53,184	\$71,907	\$246,304 (276,825)	\$278,922	\$43,403	\$85,624
Total all funds	\$53,184	\$71,907	(\$30,521)	\$278,922	\$43,403	\$85,624
Less estimated income General fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
	\$53,184	\$71,907	(\$30,521)	\$278,922	\$43,403	\$85,624
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00

	Adds One-Time Funding for a Case Management System ⁷	Adds One-Time Funding for Office Furniture ⁸	Total Senate Changes
New and vacant FTE pool Ethics Commission	\$50,000	\$2,348	\$246,304 308,563
Total all funds	\$50,000	\$2,348	\$554,867
Less estimated income General fund	0	0	0
	\$50,000	\$2,348	\$554,867
FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00

¹ The following funding is added for 2025-27 biennium salary adjustments of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026, and increases in health insurance premiums from \$1,643 to \$1,893 per month:

	General Fund
Salary increase	\$35,168
Health insurance increase	18,016
Total	\$53,184

² Funding is added to replace 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE pool funding as follows:

	General Fund
Vacant FTE positions	\$11,109
New FTE positions	60,798
Total	\$71,907

³ Funding of \$276,825 for a new FTE positions and estimated savings from vacant FTE positions is removed and funding of \$246,304 is added for a 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool line item as follows:

	General Fund
New FTE positions	(\$262,632)
Vacant FTE positions	(14,193)
Total	(\$276,825)
Funding pool line item	<u>246,304</u>
Net savings	(\$30,521)

⁴ Ongoing (\$273,438) and one-time (\$5,484) funding is provided to add a communication and education FTE position.

⁵ Funding is increased for internship salaries (\$28,484), overtime pay (\$4,778), and commissioner salaries (\$10,141).

⁶ Operating funding is increased for the following items:

	General Fund
Information technology rate increases	\$8,713
Information technology software and subscriptions	19,151
Professional fees	50,000
Travel costs	<u>7,760</u>
Total	\$85,624

⁷ One-time funding is added to implement a case management system.

⁸ One-time funding is added for the purchase of office furniture.

Senate Bill No. 2004 - Other Changes - Senate Action

This amendment also adds a section regarding the use of funding from the new and vacant FTE pool line item.

Commissioner salaries

** 10,141*

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