

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE

Monday, August 31, 1998
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of minutes of May 4-5, 1998, meeting

WELFARE REFORM STUDY

9:05 a.m. Presentation by representatives of the Department of Human Services regarding:

- Status of the implementation of the training, education, employment, and management (TEEM) program
- Updated temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) caseload data and expenditures status for TANF and child care block grant programs
- Information regarding the use of child care block grant funds made available through the North Dakota Association of Counties
- Updated food stamp and medical assistance caseload data
- Temporary assistance for needy families work participation rates compared to federal requirements
- Evaluation of the implementation of welfare reform
- An update on the implementation of North Dakota Healthy Steps, including information regarding the bidding of health insurance coverage for the program
- An update on the implementation of the welfare-to-work program
- Pending or proposed federal program changes, including changes relating to the 12-month educational limit in the work participation requirements

10:30 a.m. Comments by Ms. Michon Sax and other representatives of the North Dakota Association of County Social Service Board Directors regarding the implementation of welfare reform

11:15 a.m. Comments by interested persons regarding the distribution of child care funds made available through the North Dakota Association of Counties

11:30 a.m. Comments by other interested persons, including clients and child care providers, regarding welfare reform

12:00 noon Luncheon recess

TRIBAL WELFARE REFORM ISSUES

1:00 p.m. Presentation by representatives of the Department of Human Services regarding welfare reform issues, including an update of:

- Discussions with tribal governments regarding tribal TANF programs
- Summary of federal funds available for North Dakota tribal TANF programs by Indian tribes and an estimate of related state and federal TANF funds currently provided tribal recipients that could potentially be made available for tribal TANF programs

- Any recent congressional changes in federal agency tribal TANF regulations
- Information on other states that provide state matching for tribal TANF programs and regarding approved or pending tribal TANF programs

- 2:00 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Raphael DeCoteau, Tribal Chairman, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, of an update on the Turtle Mountain Work First Initiative
- 2:30 p.m. Comments by interested persons regarding tribal welfare reform issues
- 3:30 p.m. Committee discussion and recommendations to the Legislative Council regarding the studies of welfare reform and tribal welfare reform issues

OTHER ISSUES

- 4:00 p.m. Presentation by the Legislative Council staff of a bill draft regarding payment of food stamps for refugees who become ineligible for federal benefits because of benefit time limits
- 4:05 p.m. Comments by representatives of the Department of Human Services regarding the bill draft, including projected estimated costs related to the bill draft during the 1999-2001 biennium, information regarding food stamp benefits for legal immigrants, and recent congressional changes addressing the issue
- 4:30 p.m. Comments by interested persons regarding the issue
- 4:45 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives regarding the committee's studies and preparation of the final report
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Committee Members

Senators Jim Yockim (Chairman), Judy L. DeMers, Tom Fischer, Judy Lee, Donna L. Nalewaja, Bob Stenehjem, Russell T. Thane
 Representatives LeRoy G. Bernstein, Linda Christenson, Jack Dalrymple, Connie Johnsen, Ralph L. Kilzer, Carol A. Niemeier, Clara Sue Price, Robin Weisz