

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDIES AND RESOLUTIONS TO BE
 PRIORITIZED FOR THE 1999-2000 INTERIM (ARRANGED ACCORDING
 TO SUBJECT MATTER)**

AGRICULTURE

- 2009 § 11 **(Required Study)** Prioritize crop protection product labeling needs, explore this state's authority under the federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, identify the data necessary to enable registration of a use in a timely manner, determine the research necessary to fulfill data requirements, and request the Agriculture Commissioner to pursue specific research funding options from public and private sources
- 1276 § 29 Study the State Board of Animal Health, including its membership, its representation, and the nature and scope of its regulatory authority over nontraditional livestock
- 2356 § 1 Study the feasibility and desirability of forming a multistate agricultural marketing commission for the purpose of marketing agricultural products on behalf of agricultural producers
- 3014 Study the disparity in prices and the inconsistency in the registration of agricultural pesticides
- 3019 Study the composition of the Oilseed Council and the impact, at the state and federal levels, of any changes in membership of the council
- 3045 Study grain credit-sale contracts to determine the need to provide protection for farmers against grain warehouse and grain buyer insolvency
- 3051 Study the role and mission of the Milk Marketing Board
- 3052 Study how the transportation infrastructure and services delivery system in this state affect the price for agricultural commodities grown or raised in this state
- 3055 Study the extent of and remedies for damage caused to landowners from depredation by big game animals, waterfowl, and turkeys and damage caused to property by hunters
- 3058 Study the chemical application industry
- 4034 Study the farm cooperative business structure to determine how it may be used to expand dairy and livestock production to enhance rural economic development
- 4040 Study the feasibility and desirability of establishing a mechanism to allow farmers and ranchers to shelter a portion of their income in an agricultural real estate asset retirement-type fund
 See also Transportation (3052); Taxation (4041)

BUDGET SECTION HEARINGS

- 4001 Authorize the Budget Section of the Legislative Council to hold the required legislative hearings on state plans for the receipt and expenditure of new or revised block grants passed by Congress

COURT UNIFICATION

- 1002 § 4 Study the impacts of court unification on the judicial system and on the effective provision of judicial services to state residents
- 3067 Review and monitor the implementation of legislation enacted by the 56th Legislative Assembly which provides for the delivery of clerk of district court services through state funding and alternative methods
- 3068 Study the feasibility and desirability of an equitable sharing between the state and counties of the costs of providing facilities for the delivery of state-funded judicial and clerk of court services

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- 3062 Study alternative dispositions, including boot camps, for youth in the juvenile justice system
- 4014 Study the method of providing legal representation for indigent criminal

defendants and the feasibility and desirability of establishing a public defender system

4015 Study the adult correctional system in North Dakota, including its functions, responsibilities, funding, and operation, and the causes of past and projected future increases in the state's adult inmate population, including the impact of sentencing laws

4048 Study the feasibility and desirability of revising the sections of the North Dakota Century Code which relate to sexual offenses, sentencing of sexual offenders, and sexual offender commitment treatment

4051 Study the classification of criminal offenses throughout the North Dakota Century Code

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1019 § 16 Study the economic development efforts in the state, including the provision of economic development services statewide and the related effectiveness, the potential for the privatization of the Department of Economic Development and Finance, and the appropriate location of the North Dakota Development Fund, including the potential transfer of the fund to the Bank of North Dakota

3027 Study heritage tourism and the relationships among the State Historical Society, Parks and Recreation Department, Tourism Department, Department of Economic Development and Finance, and private sector promoters and developers of heritage tourism in the state

3071 Study the feasibility and desirability of licensing or franchising the "Dakota Maid" logo and trade name of the North Dakota Mill and Elevator Association and promoting the logo on a nationwide basis

3074 Study the amount and value of property owned by nonprofit organizations in this state and the impact of that ownership on local communities and the economy of this state

4033 Study outmigration of North Dakota residents

See also Agriculture (4034); Taxation (3049)

EDUCATION

3007 Study of those provisions of Title 15 of the North Dakota Century Code which relate to elementary and secondary education

3050 Study methods of identifying and providing appropriate services to gifted students

3054 Study accreditation standards for elementary and secondary schools, including optional accreditation standards, the fiscal impact of accreditation standards, and the waiver of accreditation standards based on student performance

3072 Study the state of the law in this state and other states dealing with the administration of discipline in public schools

4042 Study the feasibility and desirability of developing and implementing statewide academic standards for and assessments of elementary and high school students and a system of accountability at the school and school district level

EDUCATION FINANCE

2162 § 13 **(Required Study)** Study the provision of education to public school students in this state and the manner in which education to public school students will be delivered in the ensuing 5, 10, and 20 years

3064 Study enhanced funding for school districts for quality education and methods of reducing reliance on property taxes for school district funding

3077 Study the feasibility and desirability of establishing and funding alternative high schools in rural areas

3078 Study the equitable delivery of education services to students in this state and methods of accurately calculating and disbursing state funding for education

4031 Study the method by which the state funds special education services

4038 Study options for the use of endowment funds for school districts and the feasibility and desirability of providing state matching funds

ELECTIONS

- 4005 Study the state of the law and technology with respect to legislative redistricting
- 4043 Study voter registration

ELECTRIC UTILITIES

- 2389 § 1 **(Required Study)** Study NDCC Chapter 49-03 and relevant statutes relating to the extension of electric lines and facilities and the provision of electric service by public utilities and rural electric cooperatives within and outside the corporate limits of a municipality

EMPLOYMENT

- 1135 § 5 **(Required Study)** Make recommendations concerning the report of Job Service North Dakota regarding incentives to encourage an employee to decrease the length of time that employee receives unemployment compensation benefits and to encourage a negative employer to become a positive employer

FAMILY LAW

- 3005 Study the feasibility and desirability of facilitating pro se representation in domestic relations matters
- 4032 Study the family law process in North Dakota with a focus on a review of existing statutes, the coordination of procedures, and the further implementation of alternative dispute resolution methods

GAMING

- 4046 Study the appropriateness and adequacy of the laws on charitable gaming, including the financial remuneration allowed to owners of charitable gaming sites

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

- 1012 § 4 Study the fleet services program of the Department of Transportation, including a review of the cost-effectiveness of the program and the methods used to project and set motor pool rates
- 2015 § 21 Study the establishment of agency performance incentive pilot programs; how agencies could develop, implement, administer, maintain, and evaluate these pilot programs; and the development of personnel policies and

procedure manuals and how pay raises that may not be across the board are to be awarded as a reward and incentive for superior performance and the length of time they may be in effect

- 4030 Study the management responsibilities of the Industrial Commission, the mission and location of each entity within and under the direction of the commission, the membership of the commission, and the voting structure of the commission

- 4047 Study methods to preserve and provide access to state publications in an electronic format

- 4050 Study the feasibility and desirability of implementing a grant preapproval process for every state agency, except institutions under the State Board of Higher Education

See also Economic Development (1019 § 16; 3027); Transportation (4019)

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

- 1004 § 8 **(Required Study)** Study the State Department of Health's master plan for its facilities and its definitive plan and cost estimates for upgrading its laboratory facilities, providing a state morgue for the state medical examiner, and bringing its facilities into compliance with applicable building code requirements

- 2411 § 2 **(Required Study)** Study privatizing and contracting for services provided by state agencies

- 2012 § 31 Study the feasibility and desirability of collocating the Developmental Center and the State Hospital at one location and of transferring additional buildings on the State Hospital grounds to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

- 2013 § 22 Study the role, mission, operation, and privatization of the Division of Independent Study, including educational services provided by the division to out-of-state students

- 3011 Study state agency office space needs to determine the feasibility and desirability of transferring state agencies or state employees to rural areas

- 4006 Study state agency office space needs to determine the feasibility and

desirability of transferring state agencies or state employees to rural areas

HEALTH CARE

1004 § 9 **(Required Study)** Study the State Department of Health's comprehensive plan for a community health grant program

3043 Study the clarity and continuity of end-of-life decisionmaking issues and related laws

3046 Study the challenges facing the delivery of health care in this state, including the concerns relating to reimbursement of hospitals for medical services, technological innovation, and possible regionalization of services

3070 Study health care in this state relative to access, quality, and cost to determine essential health care services, critical providers, access sites, and geographic, demographic, and economic issues relating to health care including health care insurance

4037 Study the maintenance and funding of basic student health services at institutions of higher education under the control of the State Board of Higher Education

HIGHER EDUCATION

1003 § 19 Study higher education funding, including the expectations of the University System in meeting the state's needs in the 21st century, the funding methodology needed to meet these expectations and needs, and an accountability system and reporting methodology for the University System

1003 § 20 Study tribally controlled colleges in this state and the United Tribes Technical College, including a review of funding sources and the number of Indian and non-Indian students attending each college, for the purpose of determining the feasibility and desirability of a grant program to assist the colleges in providing education to students who are less than one-quarter Indian

1003 § 23 Review North Dakota's participation in the student exchange program portion of the Midwestern Regional Higher Education Compact in the study provided in § 19 of the bill

3001 Study the expansion of psychiatric and geropsychiatric training for primary care physicians at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences

4039 Study methods by which qualified out-of-state students can be recruited by public institutions of higher education in this state and encouraged to enroll in postsecondary programs

See also Health Care (4037)

HUMAN RIGHTS

3016 Study the qualifications, standards, and the monitoring requirements for guardianship services for incapacitated persons

HUMAN SERVICES (EXCEPT WELFARE REFORM AND LONG-TERM CARE)

1014 § 6 Study the uses of funds appropriated to the Children's Services Coordinating Committee, including a review of uses of funding received by the regional and tribal children's services coordinating committees and of the entities involved in generating refinancing funds

2012 § 20 Study community services provided for the seriously mentally ill, including human service center services and the number of clients served

2012 § 21 Study the services provided by the state in its medical assistance program, including optional medical assistance services and the impact to the state and its citizens of providing those services

2012 § 28 Study the services provided by human service centers, including the appropriateness and justification for continuing human service center programs, the cost/benefit of human service programs, methods for evaluating the effectiveness and outcomes of human service center programs, and the need to establish priorities relating to human service center programs

2171 § 26 Study the impact to the State Department of Human Services, counties, court system, Division of Juvenile Services, adoption agencies, and families of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, including related state and county staffing requirements, court costs, adoption-related costs and

issues, foster care-related impacts, and the impacts on families

4003 Receive report from the Department of Human Services on improving its administrative structure and enhancing its budget presentation methods and monitor implementation of the recommendations

4044 Study the feasibility and desirability of consolidating under the School for the Blind all programs and services provided to children and adults who are blind or visually impaired

4045 Study alternative systems for the funding of services delivered to children and adults who are developmentally disabled

HUMAN SERVICES - WELFARE REFORM

2114 § 3 **(Required Study)** Requires the Department of Human Services to report periodically to the Legislative Council, or an interim committee designated by the Council, on the progress of any negotiation with any tribal government to establish a pilot project for administration of a tribal family assistance grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and requires the interim committee to report its findings and recommendations to the 57th Legislative Assembly

2114 § 4 Study the implementation of the temporary assistance for needy families program in this state, the effectiveness of that program to accomplish welfare reform, the need for continuing legislative monitoring, the proportion of adults living in Indian country who are employed, and the efforts of the Department of Human Services to negotiate a pilot project under which the state would participate in the cost of providing services under a tribal family assistance grant

4036 Study the operation of the temporary assistance for needy families program in North Dakota as it relates to the relationship between the state and the federally recognized Indian tribes in the state

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

2044 § 2 **(Required Study)** Review the activities of the Information Technology

Department, statewide information technology standards, the statewide information technology plan, and major information technology projects; conduct studies; and make recommendations regarding established or proposed information technology programs and information technology acquisition

INSURANCE

3053 Study the feasibility and impact of mental health and substance abuse parity in this state

3075 Study insurance discrimination against victims of domestic violence

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

3079 Study the relationship of rural subdivisions and townships

See also Court Unification (3068); Transportation (4019)

LONG-TERM CARE

2012 § 22 Study residential treatment centers and residential child care facilities, including occupancy rates, the number of out-of-state residents, and the need for additional facilities

2012 § 29 Study the state and federal regulations relating to nursing homes, the impact of those regulations on the cost of care at North Dakota nursing homes, and state options for reducing regulations and the related reductions in cost of care

2012 § 30 Study the appropriateness of the state continuing rate equalization for private pay and public pay residents in nursing homes, including the fiscal impact on private pay and public pay residents of the repeal of rate equalization

3002 Study American Indian long-term care and case management needs, access to appropriate services, and the functional relationship between state service units and the North Dakota American Indian reservation service systems

3003 Study the mill levy match program for senior citizens to determine if the program could be expanded to enhance home and community-based service availability

3004 Study the swing-bed process

- 4004 Study the possibility of creating an incentive package to assist rural communities and nursing facilities in closing or significantly reducing bed capacity and providing alternative long-term care services

REGULATORY REFORM (TELECOMMUNICATIONS)

- 1050 § 1 **(Required Study)** Review the operation and effect of North Dakota telecommunications law on an ongoing basis, and may review the effects of federal universal service support mechanisms on telecommunications companies and consumers in this state and may review the preservation and advancement of universal service in this state

RETIREMENT AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- 2025 § 2 Study the number, qualifications, and selection criteria for vendors and providers selected by the Public Employees Retirement System Board for the defined contribution retirement plan and the deferred compensation program

See also Taxation (3073)

TAXATION

- 1183 § 4 Study the various sources of revenues for highway funding and comparisons with other states' highway funding systems to develop an optimum blend of reliable funding sources for highway purposes
- 1462 § 8 Study the application, enforcement, and administration under the fuels tax laws
- 3049 Study taxation and regulatory incentives for the lignite industry in order to improve its competitive position in the energy marketplace and to identify federal and international impediments

to development of the lignite industry and potential state actions to address such impediments

- 3061 Study taxes imposed by state and local governments and the tax structure and balance among the various tax systems in North Dakota to provide a more equitable distribution of tax burdens

- 3073 Study the feasibility and desirability of adjustments to income tax deductions for military and other federal retirees

- 4041 Study potential tax incentives and regulatory relief that would encourage greater investment participation by North Dakota residents in agricultural business ownership

- 4049 Study establishment and operation of a disaster relief fund to address property tax needs in federally declared disaster areas

See also Agriculture (4040)

TRANSPORTATION

- 1012 § 5 Study the licensing of used motor vehicle dealers, including fees, dealer plates, and insurance coverage

- 3080 Study the provision of air service and Amtrak service in this state

- 4019 Study the placement of motor vehicle license, registration, title, and excise tax collection services in the treasurer's office of each county in this state

See also Agriculture (3052); Taxation (1183 § 4)

WATER

- 3013 Study basinwide water management of the Red River Basin

- 4027 Study issues related to the Missouri River in North Dakota