

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 State Student Congress, North Dakota High School Activities Association, House and Senate Chambers (1-2)	2 19th Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, Bismarck (2-3)	3 Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase, Grand Forks (3-4)
4 	5 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY REVIEW Telephone Conference, 10a, Harvest Room	6 HUMAN SERVICES, 9a, Roughrider Room Midwestern Legislative Conference Midwestern Education to Workforce Policy Initiative Summit, Des Moines, Iowa (6-7)	7 LONG-TERM CARE, 9a, Roughrider Room North Dakota Telephone Association 25 th Fall Conference, Minot (7-8)	8	9	10 Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase, Minot (10-11)
11 Council of State Governments Annual State Trends and Leadership Forum, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (11-14)	12 Veterans Day State Holiday 	13	14 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS, 9a, Harvest Room	15 North Dakota Farm Bureau Convention, Bismarck (15-18)	16 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, 9a, Harvest Room TRIBAL AND STATE RELATIONS, 9a, Hankinson	17 Pride of Dakota Holiday Showcase, Fargo (17-18)
18 North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts Annual Meeting, Bismarck (18-20)	19 LEGISLATIVE AUDIT AND FISCAL REVIEW, 9a, Roughrider Room	20 COMMISSION ON ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION, 1p, Fargo	21 COMMISSION ON ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION, 8a (cont.)	22 	23	24
25	26 PUBLIC SAFETY, 1p, State Radio	27 PUBLIC SAFETY, 9a, Roughrider Room North Dakota Pork Council and Milk Producers Association of North Dakota Annual Conventions, Mandan (27-28)	28 TAXATION, 9a, Roughrider Room National Conference of State Legislatures Fall Forum, Phoenix, Arizona (28-30) Northern Ag Expo, Fargo (28-29)	29 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 1p, Roughrider Room	30	December 2007 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

[A Preview of December 2007](#)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

from the council

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MEMOS

The following memorandums are available from the Legislative Council office: "Alternatives to Expressing Property Tax Levies In Mills," "Charitable Organizations' Property Tax Exemptions," "State Aid Distribution Fund History" (**Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations**); "Provisions of the North Dakota Century Code Which Relate to Agriculture" (**Agriculture**).

JOHN O., WE HARDLY KNEW YE

In 1967 when he received his law degree from the University of North Dakota Law School, John D. Olsrud took a temporary job as an attorney with the Legislative Research Committee, the Legislative Council's predecessor. That "temporary job" is now ending. After 40 years with the Legislative Council--and as its director since 1982--John, who was born in Montana and who grew up in Beach, North Dakota, has announced his retirement effective November 30, 2007. Legislators, state officials, Legislative Council staff, lobbyists, and friends are invited to an appreciation of John's public service in the State Capitol's Memorial Hall on October 30 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. with a program starting at 2:30 p.m.

AWARDS MONTH

Senator Dick Dever was presented with the statewide Mental Health America of North Dakota (MHAND) Legislator of the Year Award. Senator Larry J. Robinson was named Legislator of the Year by Mental Health America of North Dakota, South Valley (South Valley is an MHAND affiliate). The senators were noted for their legislation seeking better care for and treatment of those with mental illnesses and/or afflicted with substance abuse issues.

Senator Larry J. Robinson has also received the Ruth Meiers Award from the North Dakota Conference on Social Welfare because of his commitment to the state's disadvantaged and underprivileged. The award commemorates the late Lt. Governor Ruth Meiers, an outspoken advocate of those in need of social services.

Representative Glen Froseth and Senator Constance Triplett were the recipients of the North Dakota Petroleum Council's Outstanding Public Service Award for their work on oil and gas issues, including passage last session of the oil tax bill which activates investment and additional research into the Bakken Play. The award acknowledges legislators, elected officials, and other public servants who extend themselves beyond normal duty to make North Dakota a better place to live.

Senator John M. Andrist and Representative David Drovdal have received the North Dakota Association of Oil and Gas Producing Counties Legislator of the Year Award. That honor acknowledges their support of 2007 legislation that will bring an additional \$11.9 million to the state's 16 oil and gas-producing counties.

Senator JoNell A. Bakke and Representatives Bob Martinson and Phillip Mueller have received the Children's Champion Award from the North Dakota Association for Education of Young Children for their continuing efforts to improve quality care for and education of children.

Senator Judy Lee was recognized by the North Dakota Medical Association with its 2007 Leadership in HealthCare Policy Award. She has been instrumental in improving the state's advance directive legislation that provides North Dakotans protection when they cannot in a medical emergency or crisis speak for themselves. This is the first time the association has given the award.

Senators Randel Christmann and David O'Connell and Representatives Al Carlson and Joe Kroeber received the Lignite Public Service Award from the Lignite Energy Council. They were honored for their work on behalf of 2007 legislation that increased funding for lignite research and development.

The Women Legislators' Lobby at its October national conference in Washington, D.C., presented Senator Carolyn Nelson with its Pacesetter Award commending her for "commitment to excellence and a resolve that the voices of women of all races and stations in life are fully and fairly represented at the policy table." The conference, sponsored by Women's Action for New Directions and the Women Legislators' Lobby, gave women legislators, women activists, and other influential national figures opportunity to network on ways of significantly bringing women into the public policy process.

In October, Jamestown College presented its first special awards to young alumni. Representative Jasper Schneider was one of four alumni to receive the "Journey to Success Medallion" as the college announced its new Journey to Success program--a 21st century national model in education.

ENERGY TO GO

Prairie Public Television produced a special on North Dakota's fast-emerging renewable fuels potential and its vast oil and coal resources. Representatives Rick Berg, Mike Brandenburg, and Scot Kelsh address energy issues in the film. You may contact the Legislative Council library to borrow a copy of the DVD *Energy: Powering North Dakota's Economy*.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS IN PICTURES AND TEXT

The Center for Distance Education has released its eighth grade social studies textbook for North Dakota students, *North Dakota Legendary* by Neil Howe and Theodore B. Jellif. Included with the chapter on state government are photographs of various 2007 legislative hearings as well as a brief biography and quotes from Senator Larry J. Robinson and Representative RaeAnn G. Kelsch under the caption "Citizen Legislator." Senator Ray Holmberg and Representative Ole Aarsvold receive special introductory thanks for their personal interest in this project funded by the Legislative Assembly.