2009 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SCR 4017

2009 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No.4017

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02/13/09

Recorder Job Number: 9443

Committee Clerk Signature

Minuets:

Tom Fiebiger: Senator from District 45 in North Fargo. See attached testimony #1.

Senator Dever: You and I talked about the other bill and you are aware of that.

Senator Fiebiger: We did and as we discussed SB2425 makes this directory by putting it into law and that there is a plan for construction. We have an 8 year old plan and I weather all things are still equal.

Senator Dever: We are preparing amendments to change that, too. The difference between the two is that the legislative council could choose to go forward with it or not. But you're your resolution an interim committee would do the study with a report for OMB and the other one goes directly to OMB to provide the report.

Roger Johnson: Roger Johnson, North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner. See attached testimony #2.

Senator Horne: If the legislature approved the funds how would you use that to survive until there is some better accommodation provided?

Roger Johnson: Our preference is to move the entire staff out to a single location. A few days ago the House Appropriations they removed the money from the budget entirely.

Representative Skarpol said that he understood that D.O.T was going to build a new building

Page 2 Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Bill/Resolution No. 4017 Hearing Date: 02/13/09

and we could move into the old one. That was a surprise to me but nonetheless, when it goes to the Senate there will be no money. If we got half the money, we would have to figure out how to move some of the employee out. But the testimony that I provide to House Appropriations will be identical to what I will say to Senate Appropriations. If we move half of the employees out, we will have to take 1 or 1 ½ FTE that we currently have and try to reconfigure their duties.

Senator Dever: In the pictures it seems that some of things that they do at Game and Fish **Roger Johnson**: We cooperate with the state Health Department and Game and Fish in using some of their laboratory facilities. The best example of that is the pesticide work that we do; we send the samples for analysis to different places. The state lab is ill equipped to handle what we need done; in fact we send a lot of our samples out of state. As a rule, large animal work oes to game and fish. For this lab work, small things could be accommodated.

Senator Dever: Would the study come to the conclusion that it might be more efficient to make whatever in one central location for the use of several agencies.

Roger Johnson: I certainly hope so; we would love to be a part of something like that. There are a lot of efficiencies that could be gained from co locating some of those kinds of things.

Tom Trenbeath: My name is Tom Trenbeath, and I am Chief Deputy Attorney General for North Dakota. I want to give you a couple of comments about our office. The Attorney General's office has about 120 employees. We consist of 13 divisions located in 7 locations. Our shining star is the new state crime lab. On the other end of town we have civil litigation, Indian affairs, ect. On the main floor we have offices. On that level we have admin and accounting. Taking copy room and made it the break room. Separate mail handling room and pend \$7,000 to make copy room an office. We also have the absence of adequate space. We

want to take the people who are up north and bring them down here. The Attorney General

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Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee
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and I go to different states for conferences, all that I have had a separate building their entire staff. By my calculation the State of North Dakota is shedding \$7,500,000 a biennium on leases

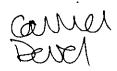
Senator Horne: We have 2 proposals in front of us. If I remember, the other one would have us ask the Director of OMB to do the study and them come back to us and this one suggest going through the legislative council. Do you have any suggestions on which are the best way to do it?

Tom Trenbeath: This is I would guess that the organization that is the closest to the people that make the decision would be the best to make the study, and that would be the legislative council.

Having no one else to testify in any position on SCR4017 Chairman Dever closed the public earing.

Date: Roll Call Vote #:

2009 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL/RESOLUTION NO. U



Senate Government a	nd Veteran's Affairs			Com	mittee
☐ Check here for Co	nference Committe	ee			
Legislative Council Ame	ndment Number				
Action Taken	> NOT	Fou	\Diamond		
Motion Made By		Se	econded By Oelll		
Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
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Aheant					

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410) February 26, 2009 1:47 p.m.

Module No: SR-35-3668
Carrier: Dever
Insert LC:. Title:.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4017: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4017 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2009 TESTIMONY

SCR 4017



Phone Toll Free Fax (701) 328-2231 (800) 242-7535 (701) 328-4567

Testimony of Roger Johnson Agriculture Commissioner SCR4017 Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Missouri River Room February 13, 2009

Chairman Dever and members of the Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee, I am Roger Johnson, Agriculture Commissioner. I am here in support of SCR4017, which provides for a study of state agency space needs.

We are a relatively small state agency—we are currently authorized for 67.5 FTEs. Of those 67.5 FTE's, 33.5 FTEs are located in the Capitol on 6th floor and 7 FTE's are located on 14th floor. In addition, we currently have one temporary front desk employee and one marketing intern on 6th floor. We have three FTE's located in offices at NDSU in Fargo, and one ag mediation FTE works out of a field office at McVille. The remaining FTEs are field inspectors and ag mediation negotiators, who work out of their homes.

Our space needs have grown significantly, especially since 1995. The 1995 Legislature moved three Registration Division FTEs from the Health Department and three Board of Animal Health FTEs into the Ag Department. Since then, an increased awareness of livestock health concerns at both state and federal levels has resulted in the Legislature adding five FTEs to respond to these issues.

The 1999 Legislature established the State Meat Inspection Program which has added two additional staff in the Capitol and ten field inspectors. The 1999 Legislature also added a position to deal with pesticide harmonization, and the 2007 Legislature added 1.5 FTEs to focus on endangered species work. Federal funds have also added a Plant Protection FTE to deal with increased plant disease risks.

To deal with the increasingly cramped office spaces, we moved some staff to 14th floor in January 2002. Storage vaults and laboratory space were converted to offices. We now face a shortage of office space, and we have no lab space available for use by the State Meat Inspection Program, the Plant Protection staff, the Board of Animal Health and Pesticide Regulatory staff.

Our agency needs additional space for the current employees in the Capitol. We need additional space to provide basic laboratory space for our meat inspection program, our pesticide regulatory program and our plant protection program. We need work space for our field staff who routinely visit the office, but have nowhere to do job related functions. As you can see from the attached photos, we are extremely crowded, and we have people performing laboratory job functions at their desks.

Our current situation is less than ideal, and as a result we requested \$400,000 (\$220,000 of general funds) to move out of the Capitol as our highest priority budget enhancement. The Governor recognized our space concerns and recommended \$120,000 of general funds in his budget. The Governor was unwilling to be the one to suggest that a constitutionally elected official be moved out of the Capitol.

We were very close to moving some of our staff to another location in early 2007. However, our analysis showed that moving part of our staff to a location away from the Capitol would result in duplicate expenditures for equipment and staff and overall inefficiencies in working between two locations.

I view this study as a long overdue first step to respond to inadequate space for state agencies—a problem that we and many other state agencies face.

Chairman Dever and committee members, I urge your "do pass" on SCR4017. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



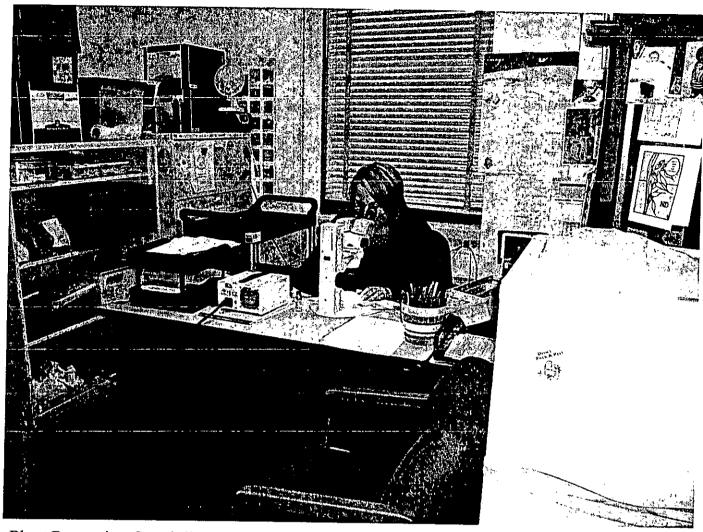
Pesticide Program Specialist Angela Keller removes intestinal samples from a fish (above) and a bird (below) on her desk in the North Dakota Department of Agriculture, located on the sixth floor of the State Capitol. The samples are tested for traces of pesticides.





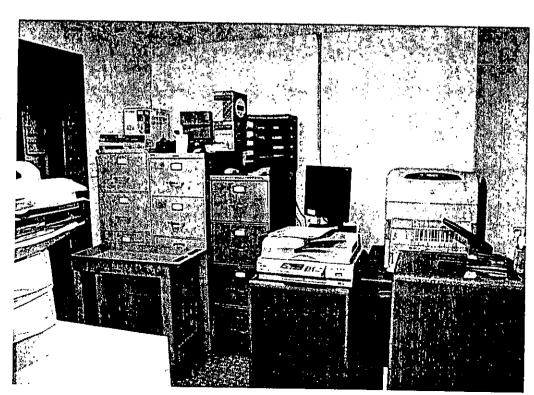
Dr. Andrea Grondahl, director of the State Meat and Poultry Inspection Program, innoculates a petri dish with a bacteria-laden swab and a swab from the kidneys and other offal on her desk. At right, the innoculated petri dish is kept in an incubator. Her office is on the sixth floor of the State Capitol.





Plant Protection Specialist Carrie Larson uses her 14th floor office for a laboratory. conducting examinations of plant material for insects and disease.

Printers, fax machines and file cabinets crowd a former office on the 14th floor.

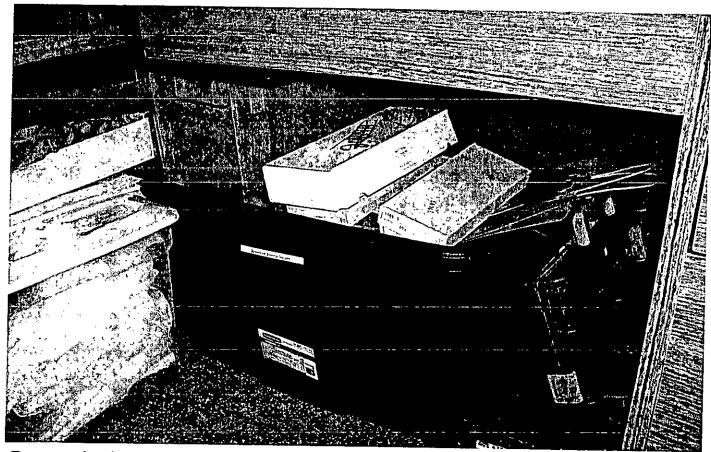




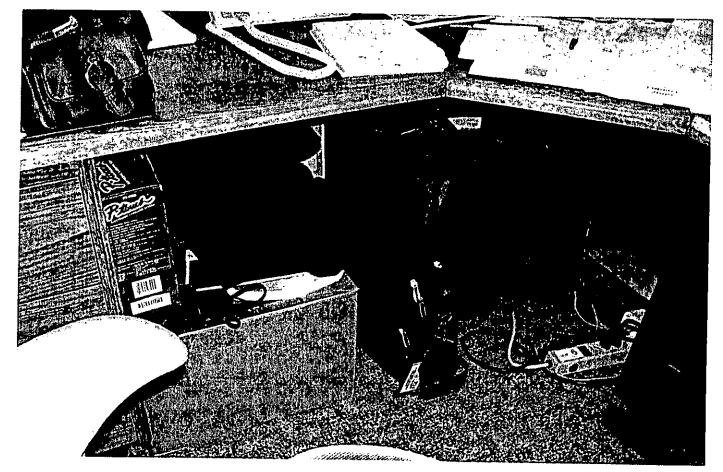
State Entomologist Dave Nelson keeps grain samples in open pans on any available space prior to inspecting them for phytosanitary inspection.



Computer equipment and supplies have long over-flowed available storage space on the sixth floor.



Because the department's sixth floor storage vault was converted into three small offices, many NDDA staff keep their equipment, supplies and records under their desks.



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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.	BURLEIGH	NORTHERDOK MALL, 1829 N WASHINGTON, BISMANICK, ND 56502	4,006	\$52,077.98	\$13,00	2 YEARS	EXP. 11/00	NO INS.	Ş	OFFICE	GOLDMANK PROPERTY MCMT, PO BOX 3024, FARGO, ND 38103-3025	1001- MINTE PESSLER
INSURANCE	BURLEIGH	1701 S 12TH STREET, BISMARCK, ND 56501	4,800	\$57,168.00	\$11.91	2 YEARŞ	EXP. 6/09	EUP. 11-13-06	Ş	OFFICE	JAMES AND MERCY RACLAND, 2808 DOMINO DRIVE, BISMARICK, ND 88503-0147	2450 - JOSEE BUHR
JOB SERVICE	BURLEIGH	3	11,236	PO 928'023	\$1.06	BO MONTHS	ECP. 6/10	NO BAS.	Ş	PAZEGNG	MANHATTAN HOMES, LIP., RICHARD OLSON, 1022 E DIVIDE AVE., BISMARCK, ND 56501- 1802	ZB44 - BUL HELPHREY
ND BEEF COMMISSION	BURLEIGH	AG FOUNDATION BLDG., 4023 STATE STREET, BISMARCK, ND 58501.	1,185	00'006'es		2 YEARS	909 -20G	SS CM	9	OFFICE	GOLDMARK PROPERTY MOAT, P.O. BOX 7220, BISMARCK, ND 58502	,
ND BOARD OF NURSING	BURLEIGH	LOT 4, BLOCK 7, WACHTER'S ADDITION	2408	EXO 240 DD		2 YEARS	EXP. 6/08	SM CM	Q	OFFICE	1505 INTERCHANGE AVE, BISMARCK, ND 58501	
ND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND	BURLEIGH	CITY CENTER PLAZA, 418 EAST BROADWAY AVE, BISMARCK, ND 58501	88	00 000 23	5	2 VEARS	600 6X	8 Q	Ι' -	OFFICE	WELLAN BHALHOOB, CIO PHINACLE DEVELOPIENT, 41 CAPTAIN MARSH DRIVE, MANDAN, ND 58554	
ND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF	BUREEIGH	CITY CENTER PLAZA, 418 E BROADWAY, BISHARCK, ND	8	00 000 23		2 VF.ARS	Exte son	88 C	ı	OFFICE	1305 INTERCHANGE AVE, BUSNAPICK, ND 58501	
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATINE HEARINGS	BURLEIGH	1707 N 9TH ST, BISMARCK, ND 58501	3	00 000 023		2 YEARS	509 608	SA CA		OFFICE	1707 NORTH 9TH STREET, BISMARCK, ND 58501	
OFFICE OF ADMENISTRATIVE I-EARBINGS - (RENT FROM LAND DEPT - SINGE THEY ARE BOTH STATE ANGENCIES, WE DON'T I-ANNE A LEASE, NOR DO WE NEED INS)	BURLEIGH	1707 N 9TH ST. BISNARCK, ND 38505	1 136	00 826 11\$		2 YEARS		EED.	9	OFFICE	MOU, 918 E DIVIDE AVE, BISHARGK ND 56502	
PARKS & RECREATION - AGENCY TO AGENCY	BURLEIGH	1800 EAST CENTURY AVENUE. BISWARCK, ND 58503	×	\$73 251 00	\$13.50	2 YEARS	EXP 6/09	SN) ON	<u>.</u> 9	OFFICE	ND WORKERS COMPENSTATION, 1800 EAST CENTURY AVENUE, SUITERI, BISMARCK, NO 58503	
PLUMBING BOARD	BURLEIGH	RSTS. INC., 1110 COLLEGE DRIVE, SUITE 210. BISMARCK, ND 58501	!e	39.240.00	\$12.00	23 MONTHS	EXP 6/11	NO INS	9	OFFICE	RSTS, INC., PO BOX 7218, BISMARCK, ND 58507	
PROTECTION & ADVOCACY	BURLEIGH	DAKOTA NORTHWESTERN BUELDING, SUITE 406, 400 E BROADWAY AVE, BIS ND 58501	4 661	548 531 24	\$10.41	2 YEARS	EX 2.609	EXP 9-23-07	Q	OFFICE	DAKOTA NORTHWESTERN ASSOCIATES, 2001 KOLLEBREW DRIVE, SUITE 308. MINNEAPOLIS NN 55425	2950 - BECKY ROSENCRANZ

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AGENCY NAME	COUNTY	LEASED PREMISES	SQUARE FEET	SCUARE FEET ANNUAL RENT	饕	TERM	EXP. DATE	INS.	END	TYPE	LANDLORD PREMISES	CONTACT
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES	BURLEIGH	DAKOTA NORTHWESTERN BLDG. 400 E. BROADWAY AVE. SLITES 303 505, & 515, BISMARCK ND 58501	279	OK \$22 /88	213.85	S1388 2 VEADS	QUY eX	l	9	OFFICE	DAKOTA MORTHANESTERN ASSOCIATES, CO LASALLE GROUP LTD, 2001 KILEBREW, DR. 3003 - CHERYL SLITE 308, MRNES-POLIS, MN 54725 STOCKEYT STOCKEYT	3603 - CHERM. STOCKERT
REAL ESTATE COMM	BURLEIGH	DAKOTA BLOCK BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, SUITE 204 BISMARCK	188	\$13,200.00	54		EXP 708	SH OF	2	OFFICE	SDKD PROPERTIES, INC., 853 MUNICH DRIVE, 9749 - PAT BISMARCK, ND 38504	9748 - PAT JORGENSON
REG. BOARD OF PROF. ENG & LAID SURVEYORS	BURLEIGH	721 WEST MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. PO BOX1367, BISMARCK, ND 56502	1771	05.095.813	95 039		EXP 6-08	Š	2	OFFICE	RIVERSIDE OFF BLDG. C/O ROCKY GORDON & COMPANY, PO BOX 1774, BISMARCK, ND 38502	 -
RETIREMENT & INVESTMENT	BURLEIGH	(COUNTRY WEST IV. BLOCK 001, LOT D OF LOT 1) 1800 BURNT BOAT OR, PO BOX 7100, BISMARCK 58507- 7100	92.6	\$72,387.00	86518	\$13.00 2 YEARS		5 5	9	QFICE	ECOCHRANE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 3, PO BOX 7100, BISMARCK ND 56507-	SESS - BONNER
RISK MANAGEMENT	BURLENGH	1600 EAST CENTURY AVENUE, SUITE 64, ORDS 6172 & RM 146, BISMARCK ND 58503	029'1	\$22,005.00	813.50	813.50 2 YEARS		SNE CM	ş	OFFICE	MONROPORCE SAFETY AND INSURANCE, 1600 EAST CENTURY AVENUE SUITE 8 1, INSURANCK, AD SEKO	·
STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD	BURLEIGH	NORTHEROOK, 1929 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET	23.2	\$60,542.00	88	EZB 06 2 YEARS	E/0- 6/08	SN ON		OFFICE	GOLDBAARK PROPERTY MONT, PO BOX 3024, 8522- KAREN FARGO, NO 58105-3024 STENEHLEM	0522-KAREN STENEHLEM
SUPREME COURT	BURLEIGH	CENTENNAL PLAZA, LLC., 116 4TH STREET, BISMARCK, NO	31,13			8 MONTHS	909 AG	S	- 9	OFFICE	CENTENNIAL PLAZA LLC., C/O JEFF JONSON. 1825 HARBOR DRIVE, BISMARCK, ND 38504	
WORIGORCE SAFETY & INSURANCE	BURLEIGH	322 N 26TH ST, BISMARCK, ND 56501	-	80,120,000	813.88		85 603	OH SHE	NO OFFICE	FFICE		SOSO - MELANE STEELE
		TOTALS:	717 201	27 787 738 10	ļ	ŝ						

SCR 4017

Chairman Dever, members of the Senate Government and Veteran's Affairs Committee, for the record, my name is Tom Fiebiger, Senator, District 45, Fargo. I appear today in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 4017.

This resolution directs the Legislative Council to study space and facility needs of our state agencies to determine if we can be more efficient and save money by constructing additional state owned facilities.

At the present time, the state of North Dakota leases hundreds of thousands of square feet of office space in Bismarck for many of its agencies and institutions, spending approximately \$3.75 million a year.

Not only is the state spending millions of dollars annually on office leases for its agencies off site that we can measure, but there is also an intangible amount we cannot measure that I think actually may make that amount even higher. Where state agencies and offices are spread out in Bismarck, you have duplication of services, such as receptionist and copying. You have inefficiencies in staff meetings and communications that may actually require additional FTE's to pick up the added work load created by the inefficiencies.

There is a State Capitol and Capitol Complex Master Plan that was created over 8 years ago and that I believe this committee received a copy of with earlier testimony it received on SB 2425. It would be my hope that the legislature would take advantage of the thoughtful and hard work that went into creating such a plan – and look at implementing it.

SCR 4017 would require a study and a report by the Legislative Council of its findings and recommendations to the Sixty-second Legislative Assembly.

I hope this committee can give SCR 4017 a "DO PASS" recommendation. Thank you.