

HB-1159 Introduction

Good afternoon, Chair Roers and members of the Senate State and Local Government committee.

For the record, my name is Glenn Bosch and I represent Bismarck's district 30. I'm before you today to introduce House Bill 1159.

HB-1159 is a bill that simply asks this committee to consider ending a practice that in my opinion provides a very small benefit compared to the considerable amount of human capital it consumes.

Established in the early 2000's The State Information Technology Advisory Committee (SITAC) has three primary responsibilities, as described in [ND Century Code \(Chapter 54-59\)](#):

1. To advise the Information Technology Dept. regarding statewide information technology planning and budgeting, services of the department, and statewide information technology initiatives and policy
2. To review reports on major information technology projects and policies, standards, and guidelines developed by the Information Technology Dept.
3. To review major project proposals and rank those projects that receive the committee's affirmative recommendation.

Following is the SITAC Composition:

Name	Agency
Shawn Riley (Co-Chairperson)	ND Information Technology Dept.
Representative Glen Bosch (Co-Chairperson)	Legislative Assembly
Senator Kyle Davison	Legislative Assembly
Charlie Tweet	Bank of North Dakota
Sally Holewa	ND Supreme Court
Alvin A. Jaeger	Secretary of State
Chris Jones	Dept. of Human Services
Darin King	ND University System
Bryan Klipfel	Workforce Safety and Insurance
Joe Morrissette	Office of Management and Budget

Name	Agency
Ron Henke	Dept. of Transportation
Brian Kroshus	Office of State Tax Commissioner
Claire Ness	The Attorney General's Office
Pat Bertagnolli	Other State Agency Seat (Job Service ND)
Jan Murtha	Other State Agency Seat (Retirement and Investment Office)
TBA	State Agency TBA

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Today, our Legislative IT committee plays integral role in the reporting and review of all the large statewide IT projects. Additionally, the LITC committee provides a comprehensive review of all ITD policies and guidelines. Below is a partial list of some of the LITC statutory duties and reports it receives from ITD.

Determine information technology compliance reviews to be conducted by the State Auditor and receive the results of those reviews (NDCC §§ [54-10-28](#); [54-35-15.4](#))

Receive a project startup report and a project closeout report from the affected legislative or judicial branch agency regarding any information technology project with a total cost of \$500,000 or more (NDCC § [54-35-15.2](#))

Receive and review information received from the State Board of Higher Education relating to higher education information technology projects with a total cost of \$500,000 or more and receive and review information from the Information Technology Department regarding any information technology project of an executive branch agency with a total cost of between \$100,000 and \$500,000 (NDCC § [54-35-15.2](#))

Receive information from the State Board of Higher Education regarding higher education information technology planning, services, and major projects (NDCC § [54-35-15.2](#))

Review the activities of the Information Technology Department, statewide information technology standards, the statewide information technology plan, and major information technology projects; review cost-benefit analyses of major projects; conduct studies; and make recommendations regarding established or proposed information technology programs and information technology acquisition (NDCC § [54-35-15.2](#))

Review any information technology project or information technology plan. If the committee determines that the project or plan is at risk of failing to achieve its intended results, the committee may recommend to the Office of Management and Budget the suspension of the expenditure of moneys appropriated for a project or plan. (NDCC § [54-35-15.3](#))

Receive from the Chief Information Officer recommendations of the Information Technology Department's advisory committee regarding major software projects for consideration and the drafting of appropriate legislation to implement the recommendations (NDCC § [54-59-02.1](#))

Most importantly, the bill would end the practice of the SITAC ranking process. This process asks our most highly compensated leaders to review and rank large IT projects they have limited visibility and knowledge of. This is a process started several decades ago, but over time has become burdensome and the ranking has not provided the impact or oversight that was originally intended.

With that Mr. Chairman and committee members please consider this bill as a way to make a change that allows the state to eliminate a committee that is duplicating work provided by others and not providing any additional oversight of the IT department or value to the legislature.

With that Madam Chair, I'll stand for questions.