

April 15, 2025

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

### ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2015

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the department of  
2 corrections and rehabilitation; to provide a contingent appropriation; to create and enact a new  
3 section to chapter 54-23.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to a Native American  
4 re-entry program; to provide for a report; to provide for a legislative management study; and to  
5 provide an exemption.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

7 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds  
8 as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state  
9 treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from other funds derived from special funds and  
10 federal funds, to the department of corrections and rehabilitation for the purpose of defraying  
11 the expenses of the department of corrections and rehabilitation, for the biennium beginning  
12 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

	<u>Base Level</u>	<u>Adjustments or Enhancements</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
15 <del>Adult services</del>	<del>\$265,998,440</del>	<del>\$161,089,699</del>	<del>\$427,088,139</del>
16 <del>Youth services</del>	<del>26,853,221</del>	<del>9,480,420</del>	<del>36,333,641</del>
17 <del>New and vacant FTE pool</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>15,246,375</del>	<del>15,246,375</del>
18 <del>Total all funds</del>	<del>\$292,851,661</del>	<del>\$185,816,494</del>	<del>\$478,668,155</del>
19 <del>Less other funds</del>	<del>45,744,746</del>	<del>108,434,000</del>	<del>154,178,746</del>

1	<del>Total general fund</del>	<del>\$247,106,915</del>	<del>\$77,382,494</del>	<del>\$324,489,409</del>
2	<del>Full-time equivalent positions</del>	<del>929.79</del>	<del>51.00</del>	<del>980.79</del>
3	<u>Adult services</u>	<u>\$265,998,440</u>	<u>\$185,051,662</u>	<u>\$451,050,102</u>
4	<u>Youth services</u>	<u>26,853,221</u>	<u>10,924,715</u>	<u>37,777,936</u>
5	<u>New and vacant FTE pool</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15,248,196</u>	<u>15,248,196</u>
6	<u>Total all funds</u>	<u>\$292,851,661</u>	<u>\$211,224,573</u>	<u>\$504,076,234</u>
7	<u>Less other funds</u>	<u>45,744,746</u>	<u>111,490,609</u>	<u>157,235,355</u>
8	<u>Total general fund</u>	<u>\$247,106,915</u>	<u>\$99,733,964</u>	<u>\$346,840,879</u>
9	<u>Full-time equivalent positions</u>	<u>929.79</u>	<u>42.00</u>	<u>971.79</u>

**SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO THE**

**SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which the entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

<u>One-Time Funding Description</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Heart River correctional center	\$36,742	\$35,635,000	\$35,671,742
Missouri River correctional center	121,136	8,032,757	8,153,893
temporary housing unit			
<del>Payments to county and regional jails</del>	<del>17,500,000</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>17,500,000</del>
<del>Deferred maintenance and extraordinary</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>15,000,000</del>	<del>15,000,000</del>
<del>repairs</del>			
<u>Payments to county and regional jails</u>	<u>28,930,210</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,930,210</u>
<u>Deferred maintenance and extraordinary</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,056,609</u>	<u>16,056,609</u>
<u>repairs</u>			
New FTE costs	40,000	0	40,000
James River correctional center study	0	750,000	750,000
Missouri River correctional center planning	0	20,000,000	20,000,000
and design			
Software systems and technology	0	11,278,631	11,278,631
upgrades			
Equipment	0	2,079,700	2,079,700

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly

1	Victims of crime grants	0	7,000,000	7,000,000
2	Mental health assessments and services	0	550,000	550,000
3	Rough rider industries equipment and	0	13,722,181	13,722,181
4	supplies			
5	Workforce training and education	0	1,027,500	1,027,500
6	James River correctional center	0	570,000	570,000
7	maintenance building demolition			
8	<del>County and regional correctional centers</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>3,000,000</del>	<del>3,000,000</del>
9	<del>—contracted operations</del>			
10	<del>Total</del>	<del>\$17,697,878</del>	<del>\$118,645,769</del>	<del>\$136,343,647</del>
11	<u>Diversion and deflection center grant</u>	0	5,000,000	5,000,000
12	<u>Total</u>	<u>\$29,128,088</u>	<u>\$121,702,378</u>	<u>\$150,830,466</u>

13       **SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST.** The  
14 department of corrections and rehabilitation may not spend funds appropriated in the new and  
15 vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and  
16 budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the adult services and  
17 youth services line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in  
18 House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

19       **SECTION 4. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND.**  
20 The other funds line item in section 1 of this Act includes the sum of ~~\$102,356,197~~\$100,412,806  
21 from the strategic investment and improvements fund for one-time projects and programs as  
22 follows:

23	Heart River correctional center project		\$35,635,000
24	Missouri River correctional center temporary housing		8,032,757
25	Missouri River correctional center planning and design		20,000,000
26	James River correctional center facilities study		750,000
27	James River correctional center maintenance building demolition		570,000
28	<del>County and regional correctional center contracted operations</del>		<del>3,000,000</del>
29	<del>Deferred maintenance and extraordinary repairs</del>		<del>15,000,000</del>
30	<u>Deferred maintenance and extraordinary repairs</u>		<u>16,056,609</u>
31	Software and technology upgrades		11,278,631

1	Equipment	1,089,809
2	Victims of crime grants	7,000,000
3	<del>Total</del>	<del>\$102,356,197</del>
4	Total	\$100,412,806

**SECTION 5. CONTINGENT APPROPRIATION - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - FEDERAL FUNDS - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION.**

1. Subject to the provisions of this section, there is appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$989,891, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of corrections and rehabilitation for the purpose of purchasing tasers, body cameras, and ballistic vests, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.
2. The funding appropriated in this section is contingent upon the department of corrections and rehabilitation notifying the office of management and budget that the department will not receive \$989,891 from federal funds for the purchase of tasers, body cameras, and ballistic vests during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

**SECTION 6. OTHER FUNDS - COMMUNITY HEALTH TRUST FUND - DIVERSION AND DEFLECTION CENTER GRANT - MATCHING FUNDS - EXEMPTION.** The adult services line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$5,000,000 from the community health trust fund for the purpose of providing a grant for the establishment of a diversion and deflection center in the city of Fargo, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. A grant recipient must provide two dollars of matching funds from nonstate sources for each dollar provided by the department of corrections and rehabilitation. The requirements of chapter 54-44.4 do not apply to the selection of a grant recipient, the grant award, or payments made under this section. The entity awarded a grant under this section shall submit a project plan to the department of corrections and rehabilitation and must receive final approval from the director of the department before any state funds are distributed.

**SECTION 7. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION OPERATING FUND REVENUES.** Any moneys received by the department of corrections and rehabilitation from correctional supervision, electronic monitoring, and detention; reimbursements from other

1 agencies; profits received from department of corrections and rehabilitation commissary;  
2 miscellaneous revenue, including offender fines, fees, restitution, and medical copayments; and  
3 from the youth correctional center permanent fund, may be deposited in the department of  
4 corrections and rehabilitation operating fund and expended pursuant to legislative appropriation,  
5 for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

6 **SECTION 8.** A new section to chapter 54-23.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
7 and enacted as follows:

8 **Native American re-entry program - Report to legislative management.**

9 1. The department of corrections and rehabilitation, in cooperation with representatives  
10 from each federally recognized American Indian tribe in the state, and the Indian  
11 affairs commission, shall establish and administer a re-entry program to provide  
12 re-entry services and support tailored to the needs of Native Americans.

13 2. The Native American re-entry program shall:

14 a. Assess the needs of Native American adult offenders with the goal of reducing  
15 recidivism;

16 b. Identify culturally responsive training opportunities and provide training to  
17 department staff;

18 c. Designate a Native American liaison to operate within the department regarding  
19 parole and probation services for adult offenders; and

20 d. Develop oversight and evaluation processes, including outcome-based metrics  
21 related to recidivism reduction.

22 3. The department of correction and rehabilitation shall provide an annual report to the  
23 legislative management regarding the status of the Native American re-entry program.

24 **SECTION 9. MISSOURI RIVER CORRECTIONAL CENTER PLANNING AND DESIGN -**

25 **STEERING COMMITTEE - REPORT.** The appropriation in the adult services line item in  
26 section 1 of this Act includes \$20,000,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund  
27 for planning and design for a new ~~six hundred bed~~ minimum security male correctional facility  
28 for the Missouri River correctional center. The department of corrections and rehabilitation shall  
29 establish a Missouri River correctional center steering committee to oversee the design and  
30 construction of the new Missouri River correctional center facility, including other options, for the  
31 biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The committee must include one

1 member of the senate appointed by the senate majority leader, one member of the house  
2 appointed by the house majority leader, and one member of the minority party from either the  
3 senate or the house appointed by the minority leaders of the senate and the house. The

4 department of corrections and rehabilitation shall provide a quarterly report to the legislative  
5 management regarding the planning and design of a new minimum security facility.

6 ~~—SECTION 10. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY—DEPARTMENT OF~~  
7 ~~CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION.~~ During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative  
8 management shall consider studying the impacts of providing requirements for offenders  
9 sentenced to the supervision and custody of the department of corrections and rehabilitation.  
10 The study must include a thorough review of the impacts of requiring an offender to serve  
11 eighty-five percent of an offender's term of imprisonment in a secured facility, together with input  
12 from district court judges regarding sentencing decisions, state's attorneys regarding charging  
13 decisions, the department of corrections and rehabilitation regarding early release and use of  
14 transitional facilities to provide outside services to inmates, and the parole board regarding  
15 decisions to parole an inmate. The legislative management shall report its findings and  
16 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to  
17 the seventieth legislative assembly.

18 **SECTION 10. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - SENTENCING, CORRECTIONS,**  
19 **AND PAROLE OVERSIGHT.** During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall  
20 study the sentencing, correctional, and parole systems within the state, with a focus on  
21 improving transparency, consistency, and outcomes in the administration of justice. The study  
22 must include a comprehensive review of:

- 23 1. Sentencing requirements and incarceration impacts, including an evaluation of the  
24 potential impacts of requiring offenders sentenced to the custody of the department of  
25 corrections and rehabilitation to serve eighty-five percent of their terms in secured  
26 facilities. The study must include:
  - 27 a. Cost analyses;
  - 28 b. Consideration of recidivism trends;
  - 29 c. Consideration of rehabilitation and re-entry opportunities; and
  - 30 d. Input from:
    - 31 (1) District court judges regarding sentencing decisions;

- 1 (2) State's attorney and defense attorneys regarding charging practices, plea  
2 negotiations, and trial resources;
  - 3 (3) The department of corrections and rehabilitation regarding inmate  
4 classification, housing, placement authority, and transitional services  
5 including work or educational release; and
  - 6 (4) The parole board regarding parole eligibility and release decisions.
- 7 2. The structure and function of the parole board, including chapter 12-59 and any rules  
8 adopted by the parole board. The study must include:
    - 9 a. Membership structure, appointment process, terms, quorum, and meeting  
10 transparency;
    - 11 b. Parole eligibility requirements and determinations;
    - 12 c. Victim rights and notification systems; and
    - 13 d. The role and input of the department of corrections and rehabilitation in  
14 parole-related matters.

15 The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any  
16 legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.

17 **SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS.** The following  
18 appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into  
19 the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027:

- 20 1. Any amounts remaining from funds transferred to the department of corrections and  
21 rehabilitation for deferred maintenance and extraordinary repairs from funding  
22 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund to the office of  
23 management and budget in section 1 of chapter 640 of the 2023 Special Session  
24 Session Laws.
- 25 2. Any amounts remaining from funds transferred to the department of corrections and  
26 rehabilitation for deferred maintenance and extraordinary repairs from funding  
27 appropriated from federal funds derived from the state fiscal recovery fund to the office  
28 of management and budget in subsection 10 of section 1 of chapter 550 of the 2021  
29 Special Session Session Laws and continued pursuant to section 9 of chapter 15 of  
30 the 2023 Session Laws.

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly

- 1        3.    The sum of \$131,200,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and  
2                    improvements fund for the construction of a new Heart River correctional center in  
3                    section 1 of chapter 15 of the 2023 Session Laws.
- 4        4.    The sum of \$307,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements  
5                    fund for DOCSTARS maintenance in section 1 of chapter 15 of the 2023 Session  
6                    Laws.
- 7        5.    The sum of \$2,000,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements  
8                    fund for information technology needs in section 1 of chapter 15 of the 2023 Session  
9                    Laws.