

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with House Amendments****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>
14 Adult services	\$265,998,440	\$185,051,662	\$451,050,102
16 Youth services	26,853,221	10,924,715	37,777,936
17 New and vacant FTE pool	<u>0</u>	<u>15,248,196</u>	<u>15,248,196</u>
18 Total all funds	\$292,851,661	\$211,224,573	\$504,076,234
19 Less other funds	<u>45,744,746</u>	<u>111,490,609</u>	<u>157,235,355</u>
20 Total general fund	\$247,106,915	\$99,733,964	\$346,840,879
21 Full-time equivalent positions	929.79	42.00	971.79

1       **SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO THE**  
2 **SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.** The following amounts reflect the one-time funding  
3 items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's  
4 base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which the entity shall report to the appropriations  
5 committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

6 <u>One-Time Funding Description</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
7 Heart River correctional center	\$36,742	\$35,635,000	\$35,671,742
8 Missouri River correctional center	121,136	8,032,757	8,153,893
9 temporary housing unit			
10 Payments to county and regional jails	28,930,210	0	28,930,210
11 Deferred maintenance and extraordinary	0	16,056,609	16,056,609
12 repairs			
13 New FTE costs	40,000	0	40,000
14 James River correctional center study	0	750,000	750,000
15 Missouri River correctional center planning	0	20,000,000	20,000,000
16 and design			
17 Software systems and technology	0	11,278,631	11,278,631
18 upgrades			
19 Equipment	0	2,079,700	2,079,700
20 Victims of crime grants	0	7,000,000	7,000,000
21 Mental health assessments and services	0	550,000	550,000
22 Rough rider industries equipment and	0	13,722,181	13,722,181
23 supplies			
24 Workforce training and education	0	1,027,500	1,027,500
25 James River correctional center	0	570,000	570,000
26 maintenance building demolition			
27 Diversion and deflection center grant	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>
28 Total	\$29,128,088	\$121,702,378	\$150,830,466

29       **SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST.** The  
30 department of corrections and rehabilitation may not spend funds appropriated in the new and  
31 vacant FTE pool line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and

1 budget to transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the adult services and  
2 youth services line items in accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in  
3 House Bill No. 1015, as approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

4 **SECTION 4. OTHER FUNDS - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND.**

5 The other funds line item in section 1 of this Act includes the sum of \$100,412,806 from the  
6 strategic investment and improvements fund for one-time projects and programs as follows:

7 Heart River correctional center project	\$35,635,000
8 Missouri River correctional center temporary housing	8,032,757
9 Missouri River correctional center planning and design	20,000,000
10 James River correctional center facilities study	750,000
11 James River correctional center maintenance building demolition	570,000
12 Deferred maintenance and extraordinary repairs	16,056,609
13 Software and technology upgrades	11,278,631
14 Equipment	1,089,809
15 Victims of crime grants	<u>7,000,000</u>
16 Total	\$100,412,806

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

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

30 **SECTION 6. OTHER FUNDS - COMMUNITY HEALTH TRUST FUND - DIVERSION AND**  
31 **DEFLECTION CENTER GRANT - MATCHING FUNDS - EXEMPTION.** The adult services line

1 item in section 1 of this Act includes \$5,000,000 from the community health trust fund for the  
2 purpose of providing a grant for the establishment of a diversion and deflection center in the city  
3 of Fargo, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. A grant recipient  
4 must provide two dollars of matching funds from nonstate sources for each dollar provided by  
5 the department of corrections and rehabilitation. The requirements of chapter 54-44.4 do not  
6 apply to the selection of a grant recipient, the grant award, or payments made under this  
7 section. The entity awarded a grant under this section shall submit a project plan to the  
8 department of corrections and rehabilitation and must receive final approval from the director of  
9 the department before any state funds are distributed.

10 **SECTION 7. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION OPERATING**  
11 **FUND REVENUES.** Any moneys received by the department of corrections and rehabilitation  
12 from correctional supervision, electronic monitoring, and detention; reimbursements from other  
13 agencies; profits received from department of corrections and rehabilitation commissary;  
14 miscellaneous revenue, including offender fines, fees, restitution, and medical copayments; and  
15 from the youth correctional center permanent fund, may be deposited in the department of  
16 corrections and rehabilitation operating fund and expended pursuant to legislative appropriation,  
17 for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

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

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

- 21 1. The department of corrections and rehabilitation, in cooperation with representatives  
22 from each federally recognized American Indian tribe in the state, and the Indian  
23 affairs commission, shall establish and administer a re-entry program to provide  
24 re-entry services and support tailored to the needs of Native Americans.
- 25 2. The Native American re-entry program shall:
- 26 a. Assess the needs of Native American adult offenders with the goal of reducing  
27 recidivism;
- 28 b. Identify culturally responsive training opportunities and provide training to  
29 department staff;
- 30 c. Designate a Native American liaison to operate within the department regarding  
31 parole and probation services for adult offenders; and

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

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

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

6 **STEERING COMMITTEE - REPORT.** The appropriation in the adult services line item in  
7 section 1 of this Act includes \$20,000,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund  
8 for planning and design for a new minimum security male correctional facility for the Missouri  
9 River correctional center. The department of corrections and rehabilitation shall establish a  
10 Missouri River correctional center steering committee to oversee the design and construction of  
11 the new Missouri River correctional center facility, including other options, for the biennium  
12 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The committee must include one member of  
13 the senate appointed by the senate majority leader, one member of the house appointed by the  
14 house majority leader, and one member of the minority party from either the senate or the  
15 house appointed by the minority leaders of the senate and the house. The department of  
16 corrections and rehabilitation shall provide a quarterly report to the legislative management  
17 regarding the planning and design of a new minimum security facility.

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.