

**SECTION 47. STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION STUDY AND REPORT -
COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION - LEGISLATIVE INTENT - REPORT.**

1. The state board of higher education shall study the costs and benefits of a system of higher education led by a chancellor compared to a commissioner during the 2025-26 interim. The state board of higher education shall report its findings and recommendations, including any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the legislative management by May 31, 2026.
2. It is the intent of the sixty-ninth legislative assembly that:
 - a. The state board of higher education appoint a state commissioner of higher education in compliance with chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code and subsection 7 of section 6 of article VIII of the Constitution of North Dakota.
 - b. The state commissioner of higher education be recognized as a position important to the efficient and effective functioning of the North Dakota university system.
 - c. The state board of higher education recognize the importance of hiring an individual for the position of state commissioner of higher education in an efficient and timely manner.
3. The state board of higher education shall provide a report to the legislative management by October 15, 2025, regarding the hiring process for the state commissioner of higher education position, including detail regarding the cause or reasoning behind any delays in the hiring process.