Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2180

Introduced by

Senators Paulson, Luick, Weston

Representatives Louser, D. Ruby, D. Johnston

1   A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota

2   Century Code, relating to the opportunity to provide public comment at a meeting of a public

3   entity.

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

5   **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created

6   and enacted as follows:

7   **Public comment - Regular meetings of political subdivisions.**

8   1.   At least one-fourth of the publicly noticedEvery regular meetingsmeeting of a political

9   subdivision governing body of a city, county, township, school district,

10   park district, or water resource districtheld per year must include an

11   opportunity for an individual in attendance to provide public comment.

12   2.   An individual providing comment at a meeting shall provide to the political subdivision

13   governing body in writing the individual's name and address. The individual's address is

14   an exempt record.

15   3.   A political subdivisiongoverning body of a city, county, township, school district, park

16   district, or water resource district may:

17   a.   Limit a public comment by time per speaker, total time for public comment, or

18   both.

19   b.   Develop a policy regarding public comment rules for regular meetings. The policy

17   may provide a public comment:

18   (1)   Must be pertinent to the political subdivision.

19   (2)   May not interfere with the orderly conduct of the regular meeting.

20   (3)   May not be defamatory, abusive, harassing, or unlawful.

21   (4)   May be prohibited if an alternative procedure exists to bring that particular

22   type of public comment before the political subdivision, the public comment

23   includes confidential or exempt information, or the public comment is otherwise

24   prohibited by law.