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Prepared by the Legislative Council
staff for Representative Hendrix
March 7, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1257

Introduced by

Representatives Hendrix, Ista, Kasper, Koppelman, Christianson, D. Ruby

Senators Hogue, Walen, Weston, Enget

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 54-03.1-02 and 54-03.1-03 of the North
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to the organizational session of the legislative assembly.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-03.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **54-03.1-02. Time and place of meeting - Who must attend.**

7 1. In each even-numbered year on the first Monday in the month of December or on a
8 date selected by the legislative management but not earlier than December first nor
9 later than December fifteenth, all ~~persons~~individuals elected at the previous November
10 general election as members of the succeeding legislative session, and members
11 whose terms do not expire until the first day of December following the next November
12 general election, shall meet in the state capitol in the city of Bismarck, or at such other
13 place as may be designated, at a time designated by the legislative management for
14 the purpose of conducting an organizational session.

15 2. The legislative management shall call the organizational session and the legislative
16 council shall make such arrangements as may be necessary for operation of the
17 session.

18 3. The organizational session may be conducted over a period of up to five business
19 days.

1 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-03.1-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **54-03.1-03. Agenda - Adoption of rules.**

4 1. The agenda of the organizational session must include ~~the following:~~

5 ~~1. a.~~ Orientation classes ~~upon legislative rules and procedure~~ for new legislators;
6 regarding:

7 ~~a.~~ (1) Floor session and standing committee procedures, including adopted
8 legislative rules and common practices;

9 ~~b.~~ (2) Appropriations committees procedures;

10 ~~e.~~ (3) Use of tools, equipment, and technology relating to the legislative process;
11 and

12 ~~d.~~ (4) Constitutional law, statutes of limitations, due process, and other general
13 legal principles as arranged by legislative council;

14 ~~2. b.~~ Presentation of reports by legislative interim committees or commissions;

15 ~~3. c.~~ Party caucuses to review proposed legislative rules and committee assignments,
16 as appropriate;

17 ~~4. d.~~ Appointment of procedural committees;

18 ~~5. e.~~ A joint session including:

19 ~~a.~~ (1) Presentation of the budget and revenue proposals recommended by the
20 governor as provided in section 54-44.1-07; and

21 ~~b.~~ (2) A report, as directed by legislative management, presented by each
22 constitutional officeholder; and

23 ~~6. f.~~ All other similar matters, ~~in order that so~~ the legislative assembly ~~be~~ fully
24 organized and ready to begin its business by the first day of the regular session.

25 2. Except for the adoption of temporary legislative rules at the beginning of the
26 organizational session, the adoption of legislative rules must take place after all new
27 legislator orientation is complete.