

**Public Service Commission
Budget No. 408
House Bill No. 1008**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 legislative appropriations	45.00	\$9,221,704	\$14,234,468	\$23,456,172
2025-27 base budget	45.00	7,489,352	13,779,645	21,268,997
Legislative increase (decrease) to base budget	0.00	\$1,732,352	\$454,823	\$2,187,175

ONGOING AND ONE-TIME GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

	Ongoing General Fund Appropriation	One-Time General Fund Appropriation	Total General Fund Appropriation
2025-27 legislative appropriations	\$8,966,124	\$255,580	\$9,221,704
2023-25 legislative appropriations	7,489,352	183,500	7,672,852
2025-27 legislative increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriations	\$1,476,772	\$72,080	\$1,548,852
Percentage increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriations	19.7%	39.3%	20.2%

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE BASE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS
Changes to Base Budget

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Adjusted funding for base budget adjustments and reductions		\$0	(\$282,673)	(\$282,673)
Added funding for cost to continue 2023-25 biennium salary increases		142,505	18,945	161,450
Added funding to provide employee salary increases of 3 percent on July 1, 2025, and 3 percent on July 1, 2026		274,922	185,662	460,584
Added funding for employee health insurance premiums to reflect a revised premium estimate of \$1,893 per month		159,891	110,347	270,238
Added funding for salary equity increases		40,000	0	40,000
Added funding to replace the 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE funding pool, including \$503,632 for new positions and \$307,690 for vacant positions		546,818	264,504	811,322
Transferred \$379,621 for estimated savings from vacant FTE positions from the salaries and wages line item and the		(67,879)	(46,007)	(113,886)

railroad safety program line item to the new and vacant FTE pool line item and reduced the amount to \$265,735 resulting in the savings as shown.

Added funding for information technology rate increases	64,692	0	64,692
Increased funding for staff professional development costs	25,000	0	25,000
Increased funding for rent and other operating expenses	185,823	4,625	190,448
Added federal funding authority to purchase a drone	0	50,000	50,000
Increased funding for federal lawsuit interventions to provide a total of \$475,000, of which \$225,000 is ongoing funding and \$250,000 is one-time funding	355,000	0	355,000
Added one-time funding for drone remote sensing technology	5,580	149,420	155,000
Total	<u>0.00</u>	<u>\$1,732,352</u>	<u>\$454,823</u>

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly approved 45 FTE positions for the Public Service Commission for the 2025-27 biennium, the same as the 2023-25 biennium.

One-Time Funding

The following is a summary of one-time funding items for the Public Service Commission for the 2025-27 biennium:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Federal lawsuit intervention funding	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
Drove remote sensing technology	5,580	149,420	155,000
Total	\$255,580	\$149,420	\$405,000

Other Sections in House Bill No. 1008

New and vacant FTE pool line item - Section 3 provides guidelines regarding the use of funding in the new and vacant FTE funding pool line item.

Bank of North Dakota - Loan authorization - Section 4 authorizes a loan from the Bank of North Dakota of \$900,000 to pay costs associated with a rail rate complaint case.

Salary of commissioners - Section 5 provides the statutory changes increasing the Public Service Commissioners' salary. Each Public Service Commissioner's salary is increased from the current level of \$135,200 to \$139,256 (3 percent), effective July 1, 2025, and to \$143,434 (3 percent) effective July 1, 2026.

Railroad safety program - Section 6 amends North Dakota Century Code Section 57-43.2-19 to increase the deposit from \$332,327 to \$352,892 per year from special fuels taxes into the rail safety fund.

Related Legislation

There is no major related legislation affecting this agency.