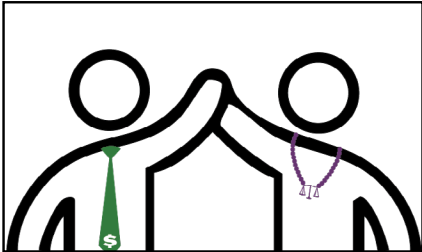




# The Council

## You're My Best Friend



Fortunately, relationships have been developed that lead to excellent collaboration and the sharing of responsibilities.

For example, the two staff members in this week's staff profile frequently work together on complex tax bills and issues. Megan and Adam often work as a team to research and draft legislation. Their shared expertise strengthens our office and allows us to more efficiently produce a higher quality work product. Similarly, Beth Dittus and Levi Kinnischtzke have helped each other hone their expertise in the retirement portfolio. Sheila Sandness has served as an excellent mentor for Liz Fordahl as Liz learns the intricacies of the education funding formula.

This collaboration and mentorship is evident throughout the office and strengthens the bonds and culture of the office. Visitors to the office may notice there is no particular pattern to the office arrangement, and it is not uncommon to see an attorney standing in the doorway of a fiscal analyst to discuss an issue. Although it may be more convenient to have the members of each division grouped into the same general office space, we have found mixing the attorneys and fiscal analysts has contributed to the spirit of collaboration. Over the years, the general rule was to let the accountants handle the numbers and let the attorneys handle the words. But, we have learned things are much easier when we all work together. Our legal division director, Emily Thompson, frequently tells the attorneys to "find a fiscal friend" -- sound advice for attorneys on all fronts!

## Employee Spotlight



**Megan Gordon** joined the Legislative Council in 2021 and has served as the Code Revisor since 2024. Megan primarily works in the area of state and local taxation, which includes property tax, income tax, sales and use tax, oil and gas tax, and coal tax. She also has various responsibilities, including revising, maintaining, and publishing the North Dakota Century Code and North Dakota Session Laws. Before joining the Legislative Council, she worked at a private law firm representing clients in civil litigation matters.

Megan grew up in Dickinson, North Dakota and earned an undergraduate degree in family social science from the University of Minnesota. She moved closer to home to attend law school at the University of North Dakota School of Law and, while in law school, served as a legislative intern for the House Human Services and Government and Veterans Affairs Committees during the 2017 legislative session. In her spare time, Megan enjoys spending time with her fiancé, family, and friends, and embraces her self-proclaimed title of "super aunt" by thoroughly spoiling her nieces and nephews.



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## Session Statistics

**327** Bills Awaiting Final Action

**168** Bills in Committee

**354** Bills Enrolled

**293** Bills Signed by Governor

**1,113** Amendments Requested

## Important Dates

**TODAY:** Deadline for Rereferrals of Bills in Second House to Appropriations Committees

**Apr. 16:** Deadline to Report Bills and Resolutions Out of Committee

## Photos from the Floor



## Employee Spotlight



**Adam Mathiak** began working for the Legislative Council in 2013 as a fiscal intern and joined full-time as a fiscal analyst after graduating from Minot State University. His portfolio includes the budgets for the Industrial Commission and the Tax Department, the legacy fund, the strategic investment and improvements fund, and state general fund revenues and oil and gas tax revenues. He provides regular updates to the Legislative Assembly on

the status of oil and gas tax revenue collections and has created various flowcharts depicting the allocation of state revenues. In recent interims, he has staffed the Legacy and Budget Stabilization Fund Advisory Board, which reviews the status of the legacy fund, and the Government Finance Committee, which receives revenue forecasting data and reviews the state budget.

Adam grew up near Milwaukee in southeastern Wisconsin and has enjoyed the privilege of traveling to numerous parts of the world. He also serves in various roles at church, including helping with the Sunday School program, and plays on a recreational volleyball team.