

I Want to Break Free



How does a legislative session end? Are we getting close? Well, at the end of Thursday, the 69th legislative day, 91 bills remained active, compared to 120 bills in 2023 and 73 bills in 2021.

As the session wraps up, both chambers will go through several

procedural and ceremonial actions leading to adjournment sine die, which means to adjourn without setting a date or time to reconvene. However, under North Dakota Century Code Section 54-03-02, a motion to adjourn sine die does not prevent the Legislative Assembly from reconvening if there are days available within the 80-day constitutional limit.

Before those final procedural and ceremonial actions occur, you can expect frequent floor sessions and frequent breaks while the chambers act on the last few bills. When a conference committee concludes its business by adopting a conference committee report, the bill generally does not reach the chamber floor for a vote for quite some time. If the conference committee recommends an amendment, the bill's journey from the committee to the floor includes sending the bill and amendments to the Legislative Council for review and creation of the draft engrossed version of the bill, creation of a conference committee report by the committee clerk, and delivery of the bill to the chamber

Employee Spotlight



Nataly Adamski joined the Legislative Council in 2024 as a legislative administrative specialist, bringing with her a world of experience - literally. Born in Siberia and having lived in Ukraine, Israel, Canada, and the United States, she brings a global perspective wherever she goes. Nataly graduated from Siberian State University with a degree in English Teaching and Interpretation. Throughout her life, she has worked in a variety of roles, including as a teacher, manager, designer,

and even a long-haul truck driver. Some of you might recognize Nataly from the organizational session, as your official legislator photographer, and from your recent committee photograph sessions.

Outside of work, Nataly enjoys mountain biking with her husband Dale, tending to her garden, experimenting with Eastern recipes (to the delight of her Western husband and coworkers), snapping photos, and finding peace through yoga and meditation.

Session Statistics



desk for placement on the calendar. After the chamber of origin approves the conference committee report and adopts the bill, the bill is transmitted to the other chamber for placement on the calendar. The end of session process is like driving in rush hour traffic - numerous starts and stops.

Among the end-of-session procedural and ceremonial actions are the appointment of committees to notify the other chamber and the Governor that the chamber has finished its business and is about to adjourn. As the committees begin to conclude their duties, there will be the traditional speeches from leaders and the presiding officers, and sometimes, even a little singing as legislators prepare to break free from the demands and duties of the 2025 legislative session.

Employee Spotlight



Austin Gunderson joined the Legislative Council in 2022 as counsel. His areas of expertise include criminal law, wildlife, weapons, and judicial procedure. In recent interims, he has staffed the Water Drainage, Water Topics Overview, Tribal and State Relations, Natural Resources,

and Energy and Natural Resources Committees. Before joining the Legislative Council, Austin worked as an assistant state's attorney in Morton County.

Austin grew up in Bismarck and earned a bachelor of science in criminal justice studies from the University of North Dakota. He earned his law degree from the University of Montana School of Law. In his free time, Austin and his wife Alandra enjoy traveling, spending time with family, and being outdoors.

