



The Council

It's a Beautiful Day



After 74 legislative days, the 69th Legislative Assembly officially adjourned sine die a little past 4 a.m. Saturday morning. As legislators and staff made their way home, birds could already be heard chirping, celebrating the beginning of a beautiful new day and the start of the post-session processing season at the Legislative Council.

In the coming days, the Governor will review the last of the bills passed by the 69th Legislative Assembly. After the Legislative Assembly has adjourned, the Governor has 15 days from the date of delivery to act on a bill, Saturdays and Sundays excepted. All bills signed by the Governor, and those which the Governor elects not to sign but does not veto within that 15-day timeframe, become law. Those laws will then be processed by the Legislative Council staff to assign Century Code numbers and add publishing notes, such as effective dates.

Bills that become law go into effect at various times depending on the effective date of the legislation. The effective date might be explicitly stated in the bill or be determined by operation of law. A bill or section of a bill subject to an emergency clause will become effective on the date specified in the bill or, if no date is specified, on the date filed with the Secretary of State. A bill containing an appropriation or which imposes a fee or changes tax liability becomes effective July 1. All other bills become effective August 1 unless a delayed effective date is specified in the bill.

Regardless of the effective date, the laws approved by the 69th Legislative Assembly will be incorporated into the digital copy of the Century Code on the legislative branch website on July 1. In the meantime, both legislators and legislative staff can take some well-deserved downtime to enjoy the beautiful spring days before diving into the work of the interim.

Employee Spotlight



Liz Fordahl first joined the legislative council as a legal intern for the 2021 session. She became a full-time member of the staff in 2022 as counsel. Her areas of expertise include education, ethics, administrative rules, open records, gaming, redistricting, and commerce. She has also come full circle by serving as this session's legal intern coordinator.

Liz has lived in various places throughout her life but now calls Bismarck her home. She earned a bachelor's degree in language arts and communications education from Minnesota State University Moorhead and a juris doctorate from the University of North Dakota School of Law. Liz cherishes her role as an aunt to her two nieces, and, outside of work, enjoys hiking, traveling, art, music, and anything related to being outdoors.

Session Statistics

1,089 Measures Introduced
616 Measures Enrolled
536 Measures Signed by Governor
21 Measures Pending w/ Governor
74 Legislative Days Used

Photos from the Floor



Employee Spotlight



Chad Gumeringer has established a long career in the state information technology industry, starting as an intern and advancing through roles as a developer, systems administrator, architect associate, and enterprise architect with the executive branch Information Technology Department before joining the North Dakota Legislative Council in 2021 as a senior legislative IT administrator. In his role at the Legislative Council, he oversees server, storage, automation, and network infrastructure. He also is responsible for disaster recovery planning and testing.

Chad grew up in Minot and earned an associate's degree in computer science from Bismarck State College and a bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of North Dakota's School of Aerospace Sciences. Outside of work, Chad enjoys flying, designing and repairing electronics, repairing cars, carpentry, traveling, volunteer work, and the outdoors.



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