



# The Council

## Interim Committees to Begin Work Soon

After surveying legislators regarding their interim committee preferences, the Legislative Management will be meeting next Thursday, June 26, to make final decisions regarding the membership of each interim committee. After the Legislative Management approves the committee structure, legislators will be notified of their committee appointments.

Some of the committees created by statute have a required membership. For example, the Administrative Rules Committee must include at least one of the members who served during the most recently completed regular session from each of the standing committees of either the House or the Senate. Similarly, some of the committees established by the 2025 Legislative Assembly must consist of a specifically prescribed membership. House Bill No. 1442 created a Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency which must include three members of the House and three members of the Senate, appointed by the respective Majority Leaders.

The majority of the interim committees do not have specifically required membership. Those committees generally consist of 10 to 20 members, with the exception of the Budget Section which has over 40 members. During recent interims, up to 25 interim committees have been appointed, consisting of approximately 400 total members. Based upon historical attendance at interim committees, we can expect nearly 90 percent attendance at committee meetings during an interim.

Most interim committees likely will hold their first meetings in July or August and meet about five times before wrapping up their work during the fall of 2026. Historically, at the end of the interim, committees will recommend around 30 bills to the Legislative Management. Through this deliberative process, interim committees have proven to be instrumental in shaping significant legislation over the years.



## Employee Spotlight



**Tanner Ball** joined the Legislative Council in 2023 as a legislative IT developer. His first project as a developer, adding electronic voting to the committee hearings system, was launched during the 2025 session. His current project is redesigning a comprehensive committee management system, which he is hoping to have mostly completed for the 2027 session.

Tanner grew up in Bismarck and attended the University of North Dakota, where he earned a bachelor's degree in computer science. In his free time, he enjoys golfing, playing video games, and attending concerts and music festivals. He is hoping to add spending time with a new dog to that list next year.

## Employee Spotlight



**Madison Berndt** joined the Legislative Council in 2024 as a legislative administrative specialist. Her work includes processing Administrative Code; formatting and processing bills, resolutions, amendments, and other legislative documents; and providing support during the interim through meeting setup, operating cameras, and indexing.

Madison grew up in Bismarck and will be graduating from the University of North Dakota in 2026 with a bachelor's degree in political science and criminal justice. She has plans to further her education at the University of North Dakota after graduation. When she isn't busy with work or homework, Madison enjoys spending time with her boyfriend, Kaden, cats Milo and Bella, dog Lizzy, family, and friends. She also enjoys shopping with her mom, camping and bonfires, and visiting her parents' hometown in South Dakota.

