



Independence Day

The Legislative Council office will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. We wish everyone a fun and safe weekend of celebrating America!

Employee Spotlight



Andrea Cooper joined the Legislative Council in 2004, as a legislative services specialist. Over the past 2 decades she has served in a variety of roles, including lead legislative services specialist and legislative

analyst, and currently holds the position of manager/analyst for the Administration and Operations Division. Andrea has been instrumental in modernizing internal processes and procedures, including the migration of documents drafted in outdated word processing software to current industry standard word processing platforms. Her contributions extend to two major website redesigns and the design and implementation of the LEGEND bill drafting software system and serving as a project manager for the ongoing LWB360 bill drafting software rewrite.

Originally from Bismarck, Andrea enjoys spending her free time cooking, traveling, spending time with friends and family, and relaxing in the yard with her husband, Rich, and their 2 dogs--Zeus, a 100-pound German Shorthair Pointer, with an obsession for playing fetch, and Gauge, their quirky, squirrel obsessed Brittany Spaniel who WILL catch that squirrel someday!

Century Code Publication

Laws enacted during the 2025 legislative session were published on the legislative branch website July 1. This includes bills signed by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State. Most laws become effective August 1, except for appropriation or tax measures, which typically become effective July 1.



The 2025 Legislative Assembly created 31 new chapters and 523 new sections; amended 1,317 sections; and repealed 10 chapters and 103 sections of Century Code. No new titles were created.

North Dakota's Credit Rating

Moody's Ratings recently updated its credit rating for the state of North Dakota. The credit rating remains at Aa1, the second highest rating possible. Moody's indicates North Dakota's high rating results from the state's substantial reserves, low debt, and a history of sound budgeting practices by the Legislative Assembly. The state's credit strengths include conservative fiscal management practices and conservative budgeting of volatile oil and gas tax revenue, substantial financial reserves, and low debt. Its credit challenges include an economy that is primarily reliant on the



volatile energy and agriculture sectors, reliance on oil and gas tax revenue to support general fund operations and other government services, and ownership of the Bank of North Dakota which exposes the state to losses in the event of a significant economic downturn. Moody's detailed credit analysis for North Dakota is available <u>here</u>.

Phishing Awareness

Given recent global events and ongoing threats, we would like to reinforce the importance of remaining alert to phishing and social engineering attacks. Targeted attempts continue to come from compromised accounts of trusted individuals.

You may report suspicious emails by clicking on the Phish Alert button in the upper right hand corner of the suspicious email. If you would like help identifying a text or email that seems suspicious, please reach out to the Legislative Council IT



staff at <u>ndlcit@ndlegis.gov</u> or by calling the Legislative Council office at 701-328-2916. Your attentiveness plays a key role in keeping our systems and your personal information safe.

