

The Council

Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency

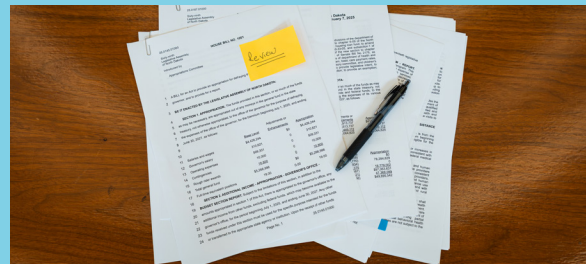
On June 30, the Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency held its sixth meeting of the interim to review bill drafts related to concessions and reporting requirements for state programs. The task force received information from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regarding the concessions bill draft, which would amend North Dakota Century Code Chapter 48-09 to allow government entities flexibility in solicitating bids or proposals for a concession contract. The Office of Management and Budget also provided updates on work being conducted regarding potential statutory changes recommended or related to legal notices and architect, engineer, and land surveying services.

The task force received information from the North Dakota University System regarding the status of interagency collaboration efforts between higher education and OMB related to statutory changes submitted by the University of North Dakota to the task force during the March 25, 2026, meeting. The task force was informed that the University System office is collecting information from each higher education institution and looks forward to future collaboration with OMB.

The task force reviewed the state programs reporting requirements bill draft and requested the Legislative Council staff collaborate with OMB and the State Auditor to revise the bill draft to incorporate legislative branch participation in program monitoring and reporting.

Bill Prefiling Opens for State Agencies

Agency bill drafts are used to propose changes to laws related to the agency. The period for state agencies, boards, and commissions to submit bill drafts for consideration during the 2027 legislative session has opened. Information relating to agency prefilng can be viewed [here](#).



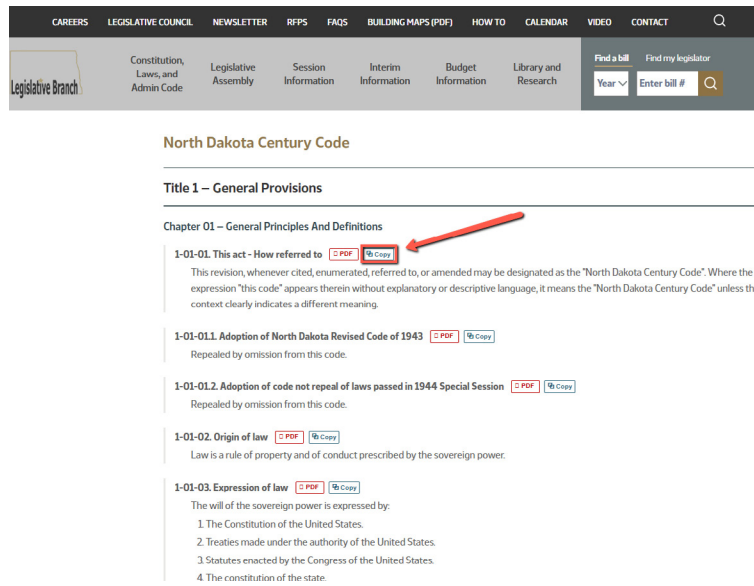
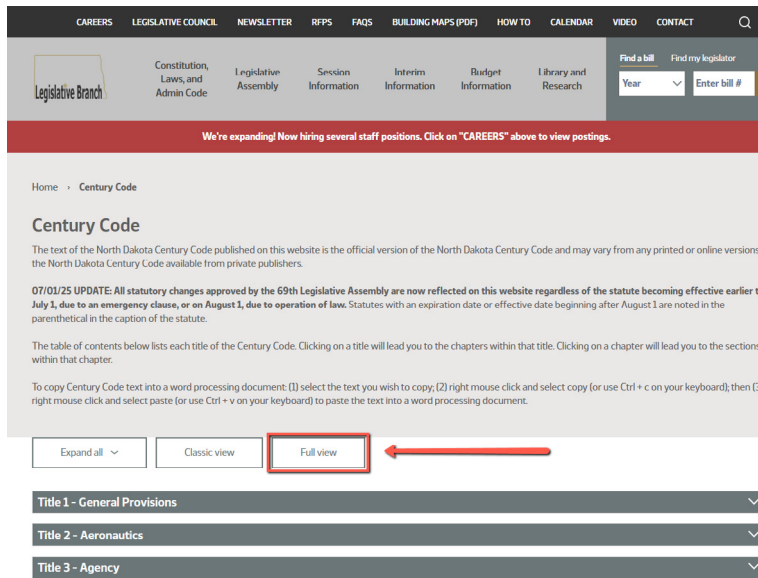
Upcoming Meetings

July

- 8** Information Technology
- 15** Artificial Intelligence and Data Center
Health Care
- 22** Energy Development and Transmission
Tribal and State Relations

NEW North Dakota Century Code Full View!

The Constitution, Laws, and Admin Code tab on the legislative branch website has been expanded to include a new [webpage](#) under Century Code called "Full View," which provides a single-page, searchable view of the complete North Dakota Century Code. The webpage allows a user to access the PDF version of individual Century Code sections and copy and paste a formatted version of the text of each section. This new webpage is recommended for agencies wishing to copy and paste Century Code text for purposes of preparing agency bills for pre-filing.



Ethics Commission Updates Travel Disclosure Rules

The Ethics Commission recently adopted travel disclosure rules, which apply to public officials. For purposes of the travel disclosure rules, a public official includes members of the Legislative Assembly and all employees of the legislative branch. Unless an exception applies, all travel expenses of a public official paid by a third party must be reported to the Ethics Commission.

Policy-monitored travel is an exception to the rule. Policy-monitored travel includes all travel reported to the Legislative Council using the out-of-state meeting form or an expense voucher on which a public official seeks reimbursement that is reported through PeopleSoft. Any travel reported to the Legislative Council does not need to be reported to the Ethics Commission.

The Legislative Council will begin collecting additional travel information from legislators, including information related to a public official's immediate family member who accompanies the public official during third-party-funded travel when the third party pays for the travel expenses of the family member. The Legislative Council also will collect additional information in instances for which the travel expenses are paid both by the Legislative Council and another third party to prevent a public official from being required to report travel expenses for the same trip to two different entities.

If a legislator's expenses related to travel undertaken in relation to the legislator's status as a public official are paid by a third party and the expenses are not reported to the Legislative Council, the travel must be reported to the Ethics Commission using the commission's online form within 15 days following the conclusion of travel.

Our office has published a quick guide with additional information that can be found [here](#). Additional questions may be directed to the Legislative Council or the Ethics Commission staff, including seeking a formal advisory opinion from the Ethics Commission.

