

The Council

Legislative Council

Legislative Council Research Services

The Legislative Council will soon be adding several policy analysts whose focus will be researching, analyzing, and developing policy proposals at the request of legislators and legislative committees, preparing summaries of bills and amendments, preparing information requests, drafting reports and data visualizations, and producing source



materials for publication on the legislative branch website. Before receiving Emergency Commission approval to hire two policy analysts last fall, all research performed by the Legislative Council was done by the members of the Legal and Fiscal Divisions in addition to their other responsibilities. This generally meant the research was done in response to requests

from individual legislators or legislative committees. The goal of the added research function is to allow the Legislative Council to begin to provide more information to all legislators proactively and to populate the legislative branch website with a wealth of information available for all to see.

Even without the enhanced research resources, over the last few years the Legislative Council has begun compiling research and resource materials under the [Library and Research](#) tab on the legislative branch website. The Library and Records Services and Administrative Services staff have made significant efforts to digitize Session Laws, House and Senate Journals, and historical versions of numerous legal documents such as the Constitution of North Dakota, compiled laws preceding the North Dakota Century Code, and Constitutional Convention reports. The site also includes legislative bill and resolution histories and Legislative Management final reports as well as interactive data visualizations.

By the end of the interim, our goal is to establish several major topic areas under the Library and Research tab where anyone can find a variety of research memoranda and other documents, including graphical data related to those subject areas. As the policy analysts develop additional expertise, we anticipate this portion of the website to become a robust source of information to help legislators become more informed on a multitude of issues and to help educate the public on legislative issues.

Statutorily Mandated Reports

Each legislative session, several bills require various executive and judicial branch agencies to submit reports to the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Management, or Legislative Council. Some of the reports are temporary in nature and the reporting requirement ends at the end of the biennium, others are codified as permanent legal requirements.

Historically, during each legislative session, a list of all reports submitted during the biennium is announced in each chamber to allow any legislator to request a copy of any report. In addition, a copy of each report received by the Legislative Council is published on the legislative branch website at <https://ndlegis.gov/statutorily-mandated-reports>.



Upcoming

July 30

Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency

August 13

Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee

August 14

Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee

August 18

Health Care Committee

August 27

Higher Education Funding Review Committee



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