



The Council

Protection and Victim Services Committee

The Protection and Victim Services Committee held its first meeting on September 30. The committee reviewed background information regarding its study of criminal conduct against children and received a report from the North Dakota Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force on the task force's work, solutions to be implemented, and final recommendations. The committee also received testimony from Families Flourish ND and the Children's Advocacy Centers of North Dakota.

The committee also reviewed background information on the committee's study of the detrimental impacts of pornography. The committee received testimony from a mental health practitioner and researcher, who spoke to the clinical effects of compulsive sexual behavior disorder and the impact of pornography on youth, adults, and marriages.

The committee's final study topic for the day focused on human trafficking victim service and re-entry programs. The committee heard testimony on human trafficking victim services from Youthworks and the 31:8 Project on the support provided to victims in the state. The Attorney General's office also provided information on the Human Trafficking Victims Grant Program and the Human Trafficking Task Force. The next meeting is tentatively planned for early December.

Upcoming Meetings

October

- 14-15** Rural Health Transformation
- 15** Education
- 16** Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency
- 22** Legacy and Budget Stabilization Fund Advisory Board
- 23** Emergency Response Services
- 24** Tribal and State Relations
- 28-29** Higher Education Institutions
- 30** Employee Benefits Programs

November

- 18** Health Care
- 19** Human Services

December

- 11** Child Custody Review Task Force



ZEUS

PET SPOTLIGHT

I'm Zeus, named after the king of gods, and I act like it. Often mistaken for a Great Dane, I'm actually the extra-large-sized 100-pound German Shorthaired Pointer. Technically, I'm a hunting dog. Realistically, I hunt steaks and sticks of butter left unattended on the counter. My stealth game? Elite. I vanish into the couch, thanks to my human's questionable decision to buy one the exact same color as me.

I'm a Velcro dog. Whining, snout nudging, and dramatic paw slaps are my love language. Ignore me? Not a chance. I'm built for drama, powered by snacks. I specialize in theatrical

flair, collapsing to the floor like a fainting Southern belle. My hobbies include fetch, destroying "indestructible" toys in seconds, fetch, chasing critters, fetch, snuggling, and did I mention? Fetch. I may be energetic, but when it's naptime, do not disturb.

Like my human, I'm funny, quirky, and a little bossy. Life without me? Please. Together, we're fabulous chaos wrapped in fur and attitude... unless a critter rolls by, then I'm out faster than you can say "loyal companion."

Can you guess my human?

