2025 HOUSE FINANCE AND TAXATION
HB 1278

#### 2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### **Finance and Taxation Committee**

Room JW327E, State Capitol

HB 1278 2/5/2025

Relating to the management and investment of moneys in the state treasury and a cash management and investment board; to provide a report; and to provide a penalty.

9:00 a.m. Chairman Headland opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Headland, Vice Chair Hagert, Representatives Anderson, Dockter, Dressler, Foss, Grueneich, Ista, Motschenbacher, Nehring, Olson, Porter, Steiner, Toman

## **Discussion Topics:**

Proposed amendment

9:01 a.m. Representative Mike Lefor introduced the bill and submitted testimony #35279 and #35281.

9:13 a.m. Don Morgan, CEO and President, Bank of North Dakota, stood for questions.

9:23 a.m. Representative Lefor stood for questions.

9:25 a.m. Chairman Headland closed the hearing.

Janae Pinks, Committee Clerk

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25.0742.04001 Title

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Representative Lefor
January 28, 2025

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

#### **HOUSE BILL NO. 1278**

Introduced by

Representatives Lefor, Vigesaa, Vollmer, Swiontek Senators Bekkedahl, Hogue, Patten, Rummel

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota
- 2 Century Code, relating to the management-and investment of moneys in the state treasury and
- 3 | a cash management and investment board; to provide a report; and to provide a penaltyan
- 4 expiration date.

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## 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Moneys in the state treasury - Management and investment - Prohibition - Penalty - Investment costs and reports.

- 1. The state treasurer in coordination with the Bank of North Dakota and the cash
- 11 management board shall review existing policies and procedures and, if necessary, develop
- 12 policies and procedures for the management-and-investment of moneys in the state treasury
- 13 based on the policies adopted by the cash management and investment board. For purposes of
- 14 this section, moneys in the state treasury:
- 15 <u>a.1.</u> Include the general fund and special funds.
- 16 <u>b.2. Exclude the veterans' postwar trust fund and funds invested by the state</u>

  17 investment board and the board of university and school lands.
- Notwithstanding section 6-09-07, the state treasurer may invest a portion of the
   moneys in the state treasury as liquid reserves or invested reserves based on the

1	policies adopted by the cash management and investment board as provided in
2	section 2 of this Act.
3	3. The state treasurer:
4	a. Shall apply the prudent investor rule for investing the moneys in the state-
5	treasury in the same manner as section 21-10-07.
6	b. Shall properly account for the investment of the moneys in the state treasury.
7	including the allocation of investment earnings to the appropriate state funds.
8	<u>c. May commingle, for investment purposes, the moneys in the state treasury when</u>
9	determined to be advantageous.
10	d. May not make social investments as provided in section 21-10-08.1.
11	e. May not personally profit in any manner from transactions to manage and invest
12	the moneys in the state treasury. A violation of this subdivision is a class A
13	misdemeanor:
14	4. Within the limits of legislative appropriations, the state treasurer shall pay for
15	investment costs associated with the investment of the moneys in the state treasury.
16	including counseling fees, trustee fees, custodial fees, performance measurement
17	fees, money manager search expenses, audit fees, expenses to review investment
18	managers, and asset allocation expenses.
19	5. Annually, the state treasurer shall prepare a report on the investment performance of
20	the moneys in the state treasury. The report must include a list of investments at
21	market value with a comparison to the previous reporting period, comparisons to
22	relevant benchmarks, investment returns, and investment costs.
23	SECTION 2. A new section to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
24	and enacted as follows:
25	Cash management and investment board - Report.
26	<ol> <li>The cash management and investment board is created to:</li> </ol>
27	a. Review existing policies and, if necessary, develop policies to present toin
28	coordination with the state treasurer and the Bank of North Dakota for the
29	management-and-investment of moneys in the state treasury.
30	<ul> <li>b. Provide transparency regarding the state's consolidated financial position.</li> </ul>
31	<ul> <li>Identify state agency and interagency cash flow characteristics and processes.</li> </ul>

1	V	d.	Review state agency cash management technology and opportunities to improve
2			state cash management practices.
3	1	<u>e.</u>	Review state agency and statewide operational cash flow requirements and
4			forecast cash flow needs.
5		f	Identify cash management practices to improve cash structures and to provide
6			transaction efficiencies.
7	<u>2.</u>	The	board shall review existing policies and, if necessary, develop policies with a goal
8		of n	nanaging and investing moneys in the state treasury to ensure principal
9	ï	pre	servation and adequate liquidity for the state's cash flow needs while maximizing
10		tota	l return forbased on an appropriate level of statewide risk. The policies mustmay
11	ı	incl	ude:
12		<u>a.</u>	A priority list to effectively manage cash resources An appropriate tiered cash flow
13			structure.
14		<u>b.</u>	An available cash resource plan to meet agency cashflow needs Authorization to
15			commingle, for management purposes, moneys in the state treasury when
16			determined to be advantageous.
17		<u>c.</u>	The determination of adequate liquidity levels for government
18			operationsPrioritization to optimize cash flow structuring to align with the mission
19			of state agencies and the state's consolidated financial position.
20	<del>3.</del>	The	board shall adopt policies for managing the moneys in the state treasury which
21		mus	st include designations for:
22		<u>a.</u>	Operating cash to provide for the state's daily cash flow and liquidity needs.
23	-	<u>b.</u>	Liquid reserves to provide for the state's short-term cash-flow and liquidity needs.
24		<u>C.</u>	Invested reserves to provide for the state's intermediate or long-term cash flow-
25			and liquidity needs while achieving a higher investment return.
26	<del>4.</del>	The	board shall determine the investment policies for the liquid reserves and invested
27		res	erves, including the asset allocation and appropriate risk level.
28	<u>5.3.</u>	The	state treasurerBank of North Dakota shall provide staff services to the board. The
29		staf	f and consultants of the state treasurer's office and the Bank of North Dakota shall
30		adv	ise the board in developing policies and determining investment policies.

1	<u>6.4.</u>	Upon request, a state agency shall provide information to the board regarding cash
2		flow and liquidity needs, including projections for the timing of revenues and
3	1	expenditures.
4	<del>7.</del> 5.	The board consists of:
5		a. The state treasurer or the state treasurer's designee who shall serve as the
6		chairman:
7		b. The director of the office of management and budget or the director's designee;
8		c. The president of the Bank of North Dakota or the president's designee;
9	í	d. Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the house majority
10	Y.	<u>leader;-and</u>
11		e. Two members of the senate appointed by the senate majority leader; and
12		f. One member appointed by the governor.
13	<del>8.</del> 6.	Legislative members of the board are entitled to receive compensation and expense
14		reimbursement as provided under section 54-03-20 and reimbursement for mileage as
15		provided by law for state officers. The legislative council shall pay the compensation
16		and expense reimbursement for the legislative members.
17	<del>9.7</del> .	The board shall provide at least one report each fiscal year to the budget section.
18	SEC	TION 3. EXPIRATION DATE. This Act is effective on June 30, 2028, and after that date
19	is in effe	ctive.

Page No. 4

Representative Mike Lefor

## HB 1278 Testimony

Good morning, Chairman Headland and members of the House Finance and Tax Committee, my name is Mike Lefor, and I serve District 37 – Dickinson in the House of Representatives. Today, I bring HB 1278 to you for your consideration.

In the last legislative session, a study was brought forward and completed during the interim, providing a comprehensive cash management study on behalf of the state. HB 1278 seeks to continue the work done and to provide a pathway toward improving the return on the state's cash.

The bill provides for the creation of a board tasked with following through the recommendations provided by the interim task force. The task force includes four legislators, designees from OMB, the state treasurer and the Bank of North Dakota and another individual appointed by the governor.

In the original version of the bill, many of the duties were assigned to the state treasurer, however, after meeting with many of the principals involved, it was decided to provide an amendment which puts more of the responsibilities within the Bank of North Dakota.

This is partially due to the fact the bank has current staff who can provide the expertise needed to complete the tasks assigned by this legislation. The cash management study focused on several areas, however, some of the main areas were providing better technology to improve the speed in which the bank can properly identify the cash flow needs of each state agency working with the agency.

The idea is to provide a plan for immediate, intermediate and long-term cash needs and provide a road map for risk mitigation in each area. The goal is to improve the return on the dollars held by the state of North Dakota.

As I stated previously, the original bill draft provided for the state treasurer providing these services with the hiring of more staff. I am asking the committee to move on to the amendment. I will go through the amendment with you now.

It states the state treasurer in coordination with the Bank of North Dakota and the cash management board shall review and when necessary, develop policies and procedures for the investment and management of moneys in the state treasury.

The board is tasked with providing transparency, clarity and data to policy makers and the public regarding the state's consolidated financial position. They are to review the operational cash flow requirements of individual state agencies and forecast cash flow needs for the current and future biennium.

Further, they are to identify cash management practices that provide an opportunity to create improved cash and investment structures, managerial processes, transaction efficiency, and cash and investment holdings that closely align to expected cash inflows and outflows, for the state agencies and by extension the whole of the state.

In Section 2, the board shall review existing policies and develop policies with a goal of managing moneys in the state treasury to ensure principal preservation and adequate liquidity for the state's cash flow returns while maximizing total return based on an appropriate level of risk.

They are to create an appropriate tiered cash flow structuring practices and policies shall be used, where appropriate and in the context of the whole of the state, to optimize the state's financial position.

It goes on to provide that state agencies shall provide information to the board regarding cash flow and liquidity needs including projections for the timing of the revenues and expenditures. The board is authorized to create and implement a cash flow structuring arrangement for general and special fund agencies and commingle for investment purposes when it is determined to be advantageous.

The Bank of North Dakota shall provide staff services to the board. The board consists of:

- 1. The state treasurer or designee who shall serve as board chair.
- 2. The director of OMB or designee.
- 3. The president of the Bank of North Dakota or designee.
- 4. Two members of the House of Representatives as appointed by the Majority Leader.
- 5. Two members of the senate as appointed by the Majority Leader.
- 6. One at large member appointed by the governor.

Finally, it provides a sunset clause of June 30, 2028 unless reauthorized by the 70<sup>th</sup> legislative assembly.

Finally, the idea is to improve the process by which cash flow needs are identified by state agencies, to be placed into a tiered cash flow process to improve the returns to the state of North Dakota.

Chair Headland and members of the House Finance and Tax committee, I am requesting the amendment be placed on the bill and once amended I am asking for a "do pass" recommendation as amended.

Thank you.

## 2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### **Finance and Taxation Committee**

Room JW327E, State Capitol

HB 1278 2/5/2025

Relating to the management and investment of moneys in the state treasury and a cash management and investment board; to provide a report; and to provide a penalty.

2:37 p.m. Chairman Headland opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Headland, Vice Chairman Hagert, Representatives Anderson, Dockter, Dressler, Foss, Grueneich, Ista, Motschenbacher, Nehring, Olson, Porter, Steiner, Toman

## **Discussion Topics:**

- Proposed amendment
- 2:40 p.m. Representative Porter suggested amendment to correct to "Governor or designee", previous testimony #35279.
- 2:41 p.m. Representative Steiner to gather more information from legislative council.
- 2:42 Chairman Headland closed the meeting.

Janae Pinks, Committee Clerk

## 2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### **Finance and Taxation Committee**

Room JW327E, State Capitol

HB 1278 2/11/2025

Relating to the management and investment of moneys in the state treasury and a cash management and investment board; to provide a report; and to provide a penalty.

9:12 a.m. Chairman Headland opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Headland, Vice Chair Hagert, Representatives Anderson, Dockter, Dressler, Foss, Grueneich, Ista, Motschenbacher, Nehring, Olson, Porter, Steiner, Members Absent: Representative Toman

## **Discussion Topics:**

- Expiration date
- Proposed amendment
- 9:13 a.m. Representative Porter moved to adopt amendment LC #25.0742.04001.
- 9:13 a.m. Representative Dockter seconded the motion.
- 9:14 a.m. Representative Porter withdrew the motion to amend.
- 9:14 a.m. Representative Dockter withdrew his second.
- 9:23 a.m. Representative Steiner moved to adopt amendment LC #25.0742.04002, #37046.
- 9:23 a.m. Representative Porter seconded the motion.
- 9:24 a.m. Voice vote motion passed.
- 9:24 a.m. Representative Dressler moved a Do Pass as Amended.
- 9:24 a.m. Representative J. Olson seconded the motion.

Representatives		
Representative Craig Headland	Y	
Representative Jared Hagert	Y	

Representative Dick Anderson	Y
Representative Jason Dockter	Y
Representative Ty Dressler	Y
Representative Jim Grueneich	Y
Representative Mike Motschenbacher	Y
Representative Dennis Nehring	Y
Representative Jeremy Olson	Y
Representative Todd Porter	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Nathan Toman	AB
Representative Austin Foss	Y
Representative Zachary Ista	Υ

9:25 a.m. Motion passed 13-0-1.

9:25 a.m. Representative Dressler will carry the bill.

9:26 a.m. Chairman Headland closed the meeting.

Janae Pinks, Committee Clerk

25.0742.04002 Title.06000

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

## Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Representative Steiner February 6, 2025

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

J.11.25

HOUSE BILL NO. 1278

Introduced by

Representatives Lefor, Vigesaa, Vollmer, Swiontek Senators Bekkedahl, Hogue, Patten, Rummel

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota
- 2 Century Code, relating to the management-and investment of moneys in the state treasury and
- 3 a cash management and investment board; to provide a report; and to provide a penaltyan
- 4 expiration date.

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#### 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

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   and enacted as follows:
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- 12 policies and procedures for the management-and investment of moneys in the state treasury
- 13 based on the policies adopted by the cash management and investment board. For purposes of
- 14 this section, moneys in the state treasury:
- 15 <u>a.1.</u> Include the general fund and special funds.
- 16 <u>b.2.</u> Exclude the veterans' postwar trust fund and funds invested by the state investment
   17 board and the board of university and school lands.
- 18 <u>2. Notwithstanding section 6-09-07, the state treasurer may invest a portion of the</u>

  19 moneys in the state treasury as liquid reserves or invested reserves based on the

8 By 2084

1	policies adopted by the cash management and investment board as provided in				
2	section 2 of this Act.				
3	3. The state treasurer:				
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5	treasury in the same manner as section 21-10-07.				
6	b. Shall properly account for the investment of the moneys in the state treasury,				
7	including the allocation of investment earnings to the appropriate state funds.				
8	c. May commingle, for investment purposes, the moneys in the state treasury when				
9	determined to be advantageous.				
10	d. May not make social investments as provided in section 21-10-08.1.				
11	e. May not personally profit in any manner from transactions to manage and invest				
12	the moneys in the state treasury. A violation of this subdivision is a class A				
13	misdemeanor.				
14	4. Within the limits of legislative appropriations, the state treasurer shall pay for				
15	investment costs associated with the investment of the moneys in the state treasury.				
16	including counseling fees, trustee fees, custodial fees, performance measurement				
17	fees, money manager search expenses, audit fees, expenses to review investment				
18	managers, and asset allocation expenses.				
19	5. Annually, the state treasurer shall prepare a report on the investment performance of				
20	the moneys in the state treasury. The report must include a list of investments at				
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22	relevant benchmarks, investment returns, and investment costs.				
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26	1. The cash management and investment board is created to:				
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28	coordination with the state treasurer and the Bank of North Dakota for the				
29	management and investment of moneys in the state treasury.				
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31	c. Identify state agency and interagency cash flow characteristics and processes.				

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1		d.	Review state agency cash management technology and opportunities to improve
2			state cash management practices.
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19			of state agencies and the state's consolidated financial position.
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25			and liquidity needs while achieving a higher investment return.
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1	<u>6.4.</u>	Upon request, a state agency shall provide information to the board regarding cash		
2		flow and liquidity needs, including projections for the timing of revenues and		
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4	<del>7.</del> 5.	The board consists of:		
5		a. The state treasurer or the state treasurer's designee who shall serve as the		
6		<u>chairman;</u>		
7		b. The director of the office of management and budget or the director's designee;		
8		c. The president of the Bank of North Dakota or the president's designee;		
9		d. Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the house majority		
10		<u>leader; and</u>		
11		e. Two members of the senate appointed by the senate majority leader; and		
12		f. The governor or the governor's designee.		
13	<u>8.6.</u>	Legislative members of the board are entitled to receive compensation and expense		
14		reimbursement as provided under section 54-03-20 and reimbursement for mileage as		
15	provided by law for state officers. The legislative council shall pay the compensation			
16		and expense reimbursement for the legislative members.		
17	<del>9.</del> 7.	The board shall provide at least one report each fiscal year to the budget section.		
18	SEC	CTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE. This Act is effective through June 30, 2028, and after that		
19	date is i	n effective.		

Module ID: h\_stcomrep\_24\_002 Carrier: Dressler Insert LC: 25.0742.04002 Title: 06000

## REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE HB 1278

Finance and Taxation Committee (Rep. Headland, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS (25.0742.04002) and when so amended, recommends DO PASS (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1278 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

25.0742.04002 Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Representative Steiner February 6, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

#### **HOUSE BILL NO. 1278**

Introduced by

Representatives Lefor, Vigesaa, Vollmer, Swiontek

Senators Bekkedahl, Hogue, Patten, Rummel

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota
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- Exclude the veterans' postwar trust fund and funds invested by the state investment board and the board of university and school lands.

## Cash management and investment board - Report.

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#### Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly 1 Review state agency cash management technology and opportunities to improve 2 state cash management practices. 3 Review state agency and statewide operational cash flow requirements and 4 forecast cash flow needs. 5 Identify cash management practices to improve cash structures and to provide 6 transaction efficiencies. 7 The board shall review existing policies and, if necessary, develop policies with a goal 2. 8 of managing and investing moneys in the state treasury to ensure principal 9 preservation and adequate liquidity for the state's cash flow needs while maximizing 10 total return forbased on an appropriate level of statewide risk. The policies must may 11 include: 12 A priority list to effectively manage cash resources An appropriate tiered cash flow <u>a.</u> 13 structure. 14 An available cash resource plan to meet agency cashflow needsAuthorization to <u>b.</u> 15 commingle, for management purposes, moneys in the state treasury when 16 determined to be advantageous. 17 The determination of adequate liquidity levels for government C. 18 operations Prioritization to optimize cash flow structuring to align with the mission 19 of state agencies and the state's consolidated financial position. 20 The board shall adopt policies for managing the moneys in the state treasury which 3. 21 must include designations for: 22 Operating cash to provide for the state's daily cash flow and liquidity needs. 23 Liquid reserves to provide for the state's short-term cash flow and liquidity needs. 24 Invested reserves to provide for the state's intermediate or long-term cash flow-25 and liquidity needs while achieving a higher investment return. 26 The board shall determine the investment policies for the liquid reserves and invested-27 reserves, including the asset allocation and appropriate risk level. 28 5. The state treasurer Bank of North Dakota shall provide staff services to the board. The 29 staff and consultants of the state treasurer's office and the Bank of North Dakota shall-

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8		c. The president of the Bank of North Dakota or the president's designee;
9		d. Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the house majority
10		leader; and
11		e. Two members of the senate appointed by the senate majority leader; and
12	-	f. One member appointed by the The governor or the governor's designee.
13	<del>8.</del> 6.	Legislative members of the board are entitled to receive compensation and expense
4		reimbursement as provided under section 54-03-20 and reimbursement for mileage as
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7	<del>9.</del> 7.	The board shall provide at least one report each fiscal year to the budget section.
8	SEC	TION 3. EXPIRATION DATE. This Act is effective through June 30, 2028, and after that
9	date is ir	n effective.

2025 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS
HB 1278

## 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## **Appropriations - Government Operations Division**

Red River Room, State Capitol

HB 1278 3/7/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the management of moneys in the state treasury and a cash management board; to provide a report; and to provide an expiration date.

8:30 a.m. Chairman Wanzek opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Wanzek, Vice-Chair Dwyer, Senator Burckhard, Senator Erbele, and Senator Sickler.

## **Discussion Topics:**

- Cash management interim study
- Review by Bank of North Dakota
- Risk mitigation
- Forecast cash flow needs
- Develop cash-flow liquidity strategies
- Information needs and technology improvements

8:30 a.m. Mike Lefor, House Majority Leader, District 37, testified in favor and submitted testimony #39534 and #39535.

8:40 a.m. Senator Patten, District 26, testified in favor.

8:46 a.m. Senator Sickler moved to adopt the amendment #25.0742.06001.

8:46 a.m. Senator Burckhard seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Υ
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Υ
Senator Michael Dwyer	Υ
Senator Robert Erbele	Υ
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Υ

Motion passed 5-0-0

8:47 a.m. Senator Sickler moved a Do Pass as Amended for #25.0742.06001.

8:47 a.m. Senator Burckhard seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Υ
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Υ

Senate Appropriations Government Operations Division HB 1278 3/7/2025 Page 2

Senator Michael Dwyer	Υ
Senator Robert Erbele	Υ
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Υ

Motion passed 5-0-0

Senator Burckhard will carry the bill.

8:48 a.m. Adam Mathiak, LC Senior Fiscal Analyst, provided budget information.

8:51 a.m. Joe Morrissette, Director of ND Office of Management and Budget, offered scheduling information.

8:57 a.m. Chairman Wanzek adjourned the meeting.

Carol Thompson, Committee Clerk

25.0742.06001 Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Representative Lefor February 18, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

## **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1278**

Introduced by

Representatives Lefor, Vigesaa, Vollmer, Swiontek

Senators Bekkedahl, Hogue, Patten, Rummel

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota
- 2 Century Code, relating to the management of moneys in the state treasury and a cash
- 3 management board; to provide a report; and to provide an expiration date.

# 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

- 5 SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
- 6 and enacted as follows:
- 7 Moneys in the state treasury Management.
- 8 The state treasurer in coordination with the Bank of North Dakota and the cash
- 9 management board shall review existing policies and procedures and, if necessary, develop
- 10 policies and procedures for the management of moneys in the state treasury. For purposes of
- 11 this section, moneys in the state treasury:
- 12 <u>1. Include the general fund and special funds.</u>
- 13 <u>2. Exclude the veterans' postwar trust fund and funds invested by the state investment</u>
- 14 board and the board of university and school lands.
- 15 SECTION 2. A new section to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
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- 18 <u>1. The cash management board is created to:</u>

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2			the state treasurer and the Bank of North Dakota for the management of moneys
3			in the state treasury.
4		<u>b.</u>	Provide transparency regarding the state's consolidated financial position.
5		<u>C.</u>	Identify state agency and interagency cash flow characteristics and processes.
6		<u>d.</u>	Review state agency cash management technology and opportunities to improve
7			state cash management practices.
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10		<u>f.</u>	Identify cash management practices to improve cash structures and to provide
11			transaction efficiencies.
12	<u>2.</u>	The	board shall review existing policies and, if necessary, develop policies with a goal
13		of m	nanaging moneys in the state treasury to ensure principal preservation and
14		ade	quate liquidity for the state's cash flow needs while maximizing total return based
15		on a	an appropriate level of statewide risk. The policies may include:
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17		<u>b.</u>	Authorization to commingle, for management purposes, moneys in the state
18			treasury when determined to be advantageous.
19		<u>c.</u>	Prioritization to optimize cash flow structuring to align with the mission of state
20			agencies and the state's consolidated financial position.
21	<u>3.</u>	The	Bank of North Dakota shall provide staff services to the board.
22	<u>4.</u>	Upc	on request, a state agency shall provide information to the board regarding cash
23		flow	and liquidity needs, including projections for the timing of revenues and
24		<u>exp</u>	enditures.
25	<u>5.</u>	The	board consists of:
26		<u>a.</u>	The state treasurergovernor or the state treasurer's governor's designee who
27			shall serve as the chairman:
28		<u>b.</u>	The director of the office of management and budget or the director's designee;
29		<u>C.</u>	The president of the Bank of North Dakota or the president's designee;
30		<u>d.</u>	Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the house majority
31			leader;

1		e. Two members of the senate appointed by the senate majority leader; and
2		f. The governorstate treasurer or the governor's state treasurer's designee.
3	<u>6.</u>	Legislative members of the board are entitled to receive compensation and expense
4		reimbursement as provided under section 54-03-20 and reimbursement for mileage as
5		provided by law for state officers. The legislative council shall pay the compensation
6		and expense reimbursement for the legislative members.
7	<u>7.</u>	The board shall provide at least one report each fiscal year to the budget section.
8	SEC	TION 3. EXPIRATION DATE. This Act is effective through June 30, 2028, and after that
9	date is in	reffective.

Representative Mike Lefor

HB 1278 Testimony

Good morning, Chairman Wanzek and members of the government operations committee, my name is Mike Lefor, and I serve District 37 – Dickinson in the House of Representatives. Today, I bring HB 1278 to you for your consideration.

In the last legislative session, a study was brought forward and completed during the interim, providing a comprehensive cash management study on behalf of the state. HB 1278 seeks to continue the work done and to provide a pathway toward improving the return on the state's cash.

The bill provides for the creation of a board tasked with following through the recommendations provided by the interim task force. The task force includes four legislators, designees from OMB, the state treasurer and the Bank of North Dakota and another individual appointed by the governor.

Beginning on page 1, line 8, you will note that the state treasurer in coordination with the Bank of North Dakota and a newly created cash management board shall review existing policies and procedures and if necessary, develop policies and procedures for the management of moneys in the state treasury.

This includes general funds, special funds and excludes certain funds already managed by other entities.

The Bank of North Dakota has staff who can provide the expertise needed to complete the tasks assigned by this legislation. The cash management study focused on several areas, however, some of the main areas were providing better technology to improve the speed in which the bank can properly identify the cash flow needs of each state agency working with the agency.

The idea is to provide a plan for immediate, intermediate and long-term cash needs and provide a road map for risk mitigation in each area. The goal is to improve the return on the dollars held by the state of North Dakota.

The board is tasked with providing transparency, clarity and data to policy makers and the public regarding the state's consolidated financial position. They are to review the operational cash flow requirements of individual state agencies and forecast cash flow needs for the current and future biennia.

Further, they are to identify cash management practices that provide an opportunity to create improved cash and investment structures, managerial processes, transaction efficiency, and cash and investment holdings that closely align to expected cash inflows and outflows, for the state agencies and by extension the whole of the state.

To I Tax

In Section 2, the board shall review existing policies and develop policies with a goal of managing money in the state treasury to ensure principal preservation and adequate liquidity for the state's cash flow returns while maximizing total return based on an appropriate level of risk.

They are to create appropriate tiered cash flow structuring practices and policies that shall be used, where appropriate and in the context of the whole of the state, to optimize the state's financial position.

It goes on to provide that state agencies shall provide information to the board regarding cash flow and liquidity needs including projections for the timing of the revenues and expenditures. The board is authorized to create and implement a cash flow structuring arrangement for general and special fund agencies and commingle for investment purposes when it is determined to be advantageous.

The Bank of North Dakota shall provide staff services to the board. The board consists of:

- 1. The state treasurer or designee who shall serve as board chair.
- 2. The director of OMB or designee.
- 3. The president of the Bank of North Dakota or designee.
- 4. Two members of the House of Representatives as appointed by the Majority Leader.
- 5. Two members of the senate as appointed by the Majority Leader.
- 6. The governor or governor's designee.

Members of the committee, I will now hand out an amendment I am asking the committee to attach to the bill, which is document number 6001. The changes are on page 2, line 26 which makes the governor or the governor's designee, the board chair and moves onto page three line 2, which provides for the state treasurer or designee as a member and not the chair of the board.

Finally, it provides a sunset clause of June 30, 2028, unless reauthorized by the 70<sup>th</sup> legislative assembly.

Chair Wanzek and members of the Senate government operations committee, I am requesting the amendment be placed on the bill and once amended I am asking for a "do pass" recommendation as amended.

Thank you.

## 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## **Appropriations Committee**

Harvest Room, State Capitol

HB 1278 3/17/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 54-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the management of moneys in the state treasury and a cash management board; to provide a report; and to provide an expiration date.

4:15 p.m. Chairman Bekkedahl opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Bekkedahl, Vice-Chairman Erbele, and Senators Burckhard, Cleary, Conley, Davison, Dever, Dwyer, Magrum, Mathern, Meyer, Schaible, Sickler, Sorvaag, Thomas, Wanzek.

Members Absent: Senators Davison, Sorvaag.

## **Discussion Topics:**

Chairmanship Change

4:15 p.m. Senator Burckhard introduced the bill and submitted testimony #42823.

4:17 p.m. Senator Burckhard moved to adopt amendment LC# 25.0742.06001.

4:17 p.m. Senator Wanzek seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Υ
Senator Robert Erbele	Υ
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Υ
Senator Sean Cleary	Υ
Senator Cole Conley	Υ
Senator Kyle Davison	Α
Senator Dick Dever	Υ
Senator Michael Dwyer	Υ
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Υ
Senator Tim Mathern	Υ
Senator Scott Meyer	Υ
Senator Donald Schaible	Υ
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Υ
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Α
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Υ
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Υ

Motion Passed 14-0-2.

4:18 p.m. Senator Burckhard moved a Do Pass as Amended.

Senate Appropriations Committee HB 1278 03/17/2025 Page 2

4:18 p.m. Senator Conley seconded the motion.

4:19 p.m. Representative Lefor answered committee questions.

## Roll call vote:

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Υ
Senator Robert Erbele	Υ
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Υ
Senator Sean Cleary	Υ
Senator Cole Conley	Υ
Senator Kyle Davison	Α
Senator Dick Dever	Υ
Senator Michael Dwyer	Υ
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Ν
Senator Tim Mathern	Υ
Senator Scott Meyer	Υ
Senator Donald Schaible	Υ
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Υ
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Α
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Υ
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Υ

Motion Passed 13-1-2.

Senator Burckhard will carry the bill.

4:20 p.m. Chairman Bekkedahl closed the hearing.

Elizabeth Reiten, Committee Clerk

25.0742.06001 Title.07000 Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Representative Lefor February 18, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
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Module ID: s\_stcomrep\_41\_013 Carrier: Burckhard Insert LC: 25.0742.06001 Title: 07000

## REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ENGROSSED HB 1278

**Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS (25.0742.06001)** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 1 NAY, 2 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1278 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

3-17-25 - Senator Burckhard

25.0742.06001 Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Representative Lefor February 18, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

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