

2025 SENATE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SB 2048

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

State and Local Government Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2048
1/9/2025

Relating to information technology plans.

9:46 a.m. Chair Roers called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Chairman Roers; Vice Chair Castaneda; Senators: Barta, Braunberger, Lee and Walen.

Discussion Topics:

- Current Statewide information technology plan

9:46 a.m. Corey Mock, ND Information Technology Chief Information Office, testified with testimony #28309 in favor of SB 2048.

10:04 a.m. Chair Roers closed this hearing.

Susan Helbling, Committee Clerk



January 9, 2025

Senate State and Local Government Committee
Honorable Kristen Roers, Chair
North Dakota State Capitol, Judicial Wing #216

RE: SB 2048 – Support Testimony presented by Corey Mock, Chief Information Officer

Madam Chair and Members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee –

Senate Bill 2048 comes to you as an agency housekeeping bill, intending to modernize how we create and maintain our Statewide IT Plan. NDIT supports a change from the current process outlined in NDCC § 54-59-11, but we are kicking off your committee workload during the 69th Legislative Assembly with a less-than-conventional request: take no action on SB 2048 without consideration of amendments currently under development.

It's important to understand “how we got to now” when determining the best course of action when change is warranted.

Title and section 54-59 relates specifically to North Dakota Information Technology (originally known as North Dakota’s Information Technology Department, or ITD). Our agency was established with the passage of this section during the 1999 legislative session, following a broader study on information services, communications, and network planning. 54-59-11 mandated that NDIT approve agency IT plans and create a statewide IT plan with input from all public entities using the statewide network, including our university system.

(It seems appropriate to describe our agency's early years as our beta testing period.)

There were many tweaks to various sections of 54-59 over the next decade, with 6 amendments to 54-59-11 alone.

54-59-11 Summary of Changes from 1999-Present

- 1999** Title and section created; each executive agency submits IT plan for approval by January 15th of even numbered years. Political subdivision users, judicial branch, and legislative branch also required to submit their plans for inclusion by January 15th of even numbered years.
- 2001** Reporting deadline moved from January to March 15th of even numbered years; political subdivision users no longer required to submit plans to NDIT.
- 2003** Reporting deadline moved from March to July 15th of even numbered years.
- 2007** Higher education IT structure codified; separate higher education IT plan created by the state board of higher education in coordination with NDIT. NDUS institutions no longer required to be included in NDIT's Statewide IT plan.
- 2007** Agency plans are now accepted, but no longer approved, by NDIT. Asset management plan is a required component; itemized additions to the plan include budget and actual cost analysis of projects, cost-benefit analysis of completed projects, information about the IT plan creation and review process, description of benefits to the state resulting from investments in IT.
- 2009** Reporting deadline moved from July to August 15th of even numbered years; CIO allowed to grant deadline extensions as needed; all itemized inclusions added in SB 2037 (2007 session) were removed, as was the requirement that agency budgets must align with their submitted IT plan. (Final product of this legislation is 54-59-11 in our current form.)

Information technology is more than computers, cables, wires, and blue screen errors. Reliable technology allows each agency to provide exceptional service and improve the lives of North Dakotans. Communication, cooperation, and perpetual planning allow NDIT to meet technological needs and expectations of all our agency clients.

54-59-11 has always been well-intentioned. Biennial conversations around this point-in-time report spark important dialogue between agencies and lawmakers. But a static IT plan is inadequate in today's dynamic world.

We've steadily adapted and moved away from old planning methods. In 2022, NDIT implemented a first iteration of our IT performance dashboard. We've retired the concept of quarterly status reports and implemented an agile "scrum" process – breaking large projects into short "sprints." Our teams and agency partners can review, test, and assess more frequently, allowing us to adapt quickly and remain accountable to our clients.

IT project agility would be impossible if restricted to a 2-year-old playbook. SB 2048 seeks to establish an updated practice that reflects regular communication and consultation with all agency partners. Our statewide IT plan is a living document and should provide meaningful information to all users and stakeholders.

In consultation with Governor Kelly Armstrong's office and other statewide agencies, we see this as an opportunity to bring agencies together and meet their ever-changing needs. Service and shared priorities should drive our technology initiatives, not the other way around. With support from your committee and the opportunity to revisit 54-59-11 with a broader lens, we believe our service-first approach will be the standard operating procedure going forward.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

State and Local Government Committee Peace Garden Room , State Capitol

SB 2048
1/30/2025

Relating to information technology plans.

3:10 p.m. Chair Roers called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Roers; Vice Chair Castaneda; Senators: Barta, Braunberger, Lee and Walen.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action
- IT plan

3:11 p.m. Committee discussion

3:15 p.m. Senator Lee moved a Do Pass on Amendment #25.8018.01001.

3:15 p.m. Senator Barta seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Jose L. Castaneda	Y
Senator Jeff Barta	Y
Senator Ryan Braunberger	Y
Senator Judy Lee	Y
Senator Chuck Walen	Y

Motion Passed 6-0-0

3:16 p.m. Senator Walen moved to Do Pass as amended.

3:16 p.m. Senator Braunberger seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Jose L. Castaneda	Y
Senator Jeff Barta	Y
Senator Ryan Braunberger	Y
Senator Judy Lee	Y
Senator Chuck Walen	Y

Motion Passed 6-0-0

Senator Braunberger will carry the bill.

Senate State and Local Government Committee
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3:17p.m. Chair Roers closed the hearing.

Susan Helbling, Committee Clerk

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

SENATE BILL NO. 2048

Introduced by

State and Local Government Committee

(At the request of the Information Technology Department)

1-30-25

J3 1 of 2

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 54-59-11 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to information technology plans; and to repeal section 54-59-11.1 of the North Dakota
3 Century Code, relating to information technology project planning.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 54-59-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **54-59-11. Information technology plans.**

8 Each executive branch state agency or institution, excluding the institutions under the
9 control of the board of higher education, unless the chief information officer grants an
10 exemption, shall participate in the information technology planning process based on guidelines
11 developed by the department. ~~The An information technology plan must be submitted to and~~
12 ~~remain on file with the department by August fifteenth of each even-numbered year, and may be~~
13 ~~updated on a quarterly basis, unless the chief information officer grants an extension. The~~
14 ~~department shall review each entity's plan for compliance with statewide information technology~~
15 ~~policies and standards and may require an entity to change its plan to comply with statewide~~
16 ~~policies or standards or to resolve conflicting directions among plans. Agencies of the judicial~~
17 ~~and legislative branches shall file their information technology plans with the department by~~
18 ~~August fifteenth of each even-numbered year as requested by the department. Based on the~~
19 ~~plans, the department shall prepare and keep current a statewide information technology plan~~
20 ~~and distribute copies of that plan to members of the legislative assembly as requested by the~~

JB 2012

1 | ~~legislative council~~. The statewide information technology plan must be developed with emphasis
2 | on ~~long-term~~agency strategic goals, business objectives, and ~~accomplishments~~alignment to
3 | statewide information technology initiatives.

4 | **SECTION 2. REPEAL.** Section 54-59-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2048**

State and Local Government Committee (Sen. Roers, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.8018.01001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2048 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

2025 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SB 2048

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2048

3/6/2025

Relating to information technology project planning.
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8:30 a.m. Chairman Schauer opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Schauer, Vice Chairman Satrom, Representatives Bahl, Grindberg, Karls, McLeod, Rohr, Schneider, Steiner, VanWinkle, Vetter, Wolff

Members absent: Representative Brown

Discussion Topics:

- Reporting deadlines
- Proposed amendments to remove section two

8:35 a.m. Corey Mock, North Dakota Chief Information Officer testified in favor and submitted testimony, #39181.

8:54 a.m. Chairman Schauer closed the hearing.

Jackson Toman, Committee Clerk



March 6, 2025

House Government and Veteran Affairs Committee

Honorable Austen Schauer, Chair

North Dakota State Capitol, Pioneer Room

RE: SB 2048 – Support testimony presented by Corey Mock, Chief Information Officer

Chairman Schauer and members of the House GVA Committee:

SB 2048 is one of two cautionary tales that will be before you yet this morning.

This bill was originally introduced as agency clean-up legislation – a modest change that would align NDCC with current procedures and best practices. Rest assured SB 2048 still accomplishes this underlying task, but our journey has been anything but dull.

Statewide IT planning has been part of North Dakota statutes since our information technology department was created in 1999. At the time, agencies would create their own IT plans, present them to NDIT by specific dates in even numbered years, and those plans would be compiled into a single statewide plan. Budgeting for the upcoming biennium would consider the statewide IT plan, especially when it came to large IT project requests.

The dates and requirements evolved over the last 25 years, with the most recent version leading to an August deadline before the final report is produced.

NDCC 54-59-11 currently describes an IT planning process that was appropriate in 1999 but is a significant departure from modern IT planning and development.

Proper IT planning requires more frequent discussion and assessment of needs. Whereas current law relies on an IT plan that reflects a point in time during a 2-year period, our updated language creates flexibility and aligns with continuous oversight and accountability.

Governor Kelly Armstrong has made it a priority that we challenge assumptions, update our processes, and amend (or remove) statutes no longer needed.

SB 2048 is a modest rewrite of our statewide IT planning process that empowers NDIT to work with all state agencies on a regular basis and maintain an ever evolving and fully transparent statewide IT plan. No deadlines or bound reports to collect dust on the shelf. SB 2048 requires executive branch agencies to work with NDIT to create and maintain a plan that emphasizes agency strategic goals, business objectives, and aligns to statewide IT initiatives.

Today, NDIT provides an IT dashboard which shows progress on IT projects, including recent milestones, current objectives, and overall performance relative to the budget and timeline.

We have also developed steering and planning committees with various agencies to assist NDIT with our intake process and project prioritization. As new projects come forward, they join the discussion and are slotted for work based on objective criteria.

Our companion bill, SB 2049, also rewrites sections related to major IT project oversight. Amendments came forward at different times for both bills. Upon further discussion, we would suggest that section 2 of SB 2048 be removed at this time. This section was added by the Senate with the belief it would no longer be necessary once we changed the definition of major IT projects. NDCC 54-59-11.1 requires each agency to coordinate with NDIT when considering any IT project with an estimated cost of \$100,000 or more. While we work with agencies on a regular basis, retaining this section of code retains a basic requirement that agencies touch base with NDIT before investing \$100,000 or more on an IT initiative. It may not require additional involvement, but it gives NDIT the ability to review their IT needs, understand what the agency is attempting to accomplish, and consult on solutions that may already exist or could be used by other agencies with similar needs.

NDIT supports SB 2048. For the time being, we believe it's worth retaining ND 54-59-11.1 and would therefore recommend that section 2 be removed by this committee.

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

SB 2048
3/7/2025

Relating to information technology project planning.
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11:05 a.m. Chairman Schauer opened the meeting.

Members present: Chairman Schauer, Vice Chairman Satrom, Representatives Brown, Grindberg, Karls, McLeod, Rohr, Schneider, Steiner, VanWinkle, Vetter, Wolff

Members absent: Representative Bahl

Discussion Topics:

- Committee action
- Deadlines

11:06 a.m. Representative Rohr moved to amend the bill relating to remove Section 2.

11:06 a.m. Vice Chairman Satrom seconded the motion.

11:06 a.m. Voice vote passed.

11:06 a.m. Representative Rohr moved a Do Pass as amended.

11:07 a.m. Representative Grindberg seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Austen Schauer	Y
Representative Bernie Satrom	Y
Representative Landon Bahl	AB
Representative Collette Brown	Y
Representative Karen Grindberg	Y
Representative Karen Karls	Y
Representative Carrie McLeod	Y
Representative Karen Rohr	Y
Representative Mary Schneider	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y
Representative Lori VanWinkle	Y
Representative Steve Vetter	Y
Representative Christina Wolff	Y

11:08 a.m. Motion passed 12-0-1.

Representative Steiner will carry the bill.

11:09 a.m. Chairman Schauer adjourned the meeting.
Jackson Toman, Committee Clerk

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2048

Introduced by

State and Local Government Committee

(At the request of the Information Technology Department)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 54-59-11 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to information technology plans; ~~and to repeal section 54-59-11.1 of the North Dakota~~
3 ~~Century Code, relating to information technology project planning.~~

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

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9 control of the board of higher education, unless the chief information officer grants an
10 exemption, shall participate in the information technology planning process based on guidelines
11 developed by the department. ~~The plan must be submitted to the department by August~~
12 ~~fifteenth of each even-numbered year unless the chief information officer grants an extension.~~
13 ~~The department shall review each entity's plan for compliance with statewide information~~
14 ~~technology policies and standards and may require an entity to change its plan to comply with~~
15 ~~statewide policies or standards or to resolve conflicting directions among plans. Agencies of the~~
16 ~~judicial and legislative branches shall file their information technology plans with the department~~
17 ~~by August fifteenth of each even-numbered year. Based on the plans, the department shall~~
18 ~~prepare a statewide information technology plan and distribute copies of that plan to members~~
19 ~~of the legislative assembly as requested by the legislative council. The statewide information~~
20 technology plan must be developed with emphasis on long-term agency strategic goals,

- 1 business objectives, and accomplishmentsalignment to statewide information technology
- 2 initiatives.
- 3 ~~— **SECTION 2. REPEAL.** Section 54-59-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.~~

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED SB 2048**

Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Schauer, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.8018.02001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SB 2048 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.