North Dakota Legislative Council

Prepared for the Government Finance Committee
LC# 23.9090.01000
July 2021

OTHER DUTIES OF THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - BACKGROUND MEMORANDUM

MONITORING THE STATUS OF THE STATE BUDGET

Beginning with the 1975-76 interim, a Legislative Management interim committee has been assigned the responsibility to review state budget information, including the monitoring of state revenues and the status of major state agency and institution appropriations. The Government Finance Committee has been assigned this responsibility for the 2021-22 interim.

As in previous bienniums, the committee's review could place emphasis on expenditures of major state agencies and other appropriations the committee might select. Budget areas the committee may wish to review include:

- Status of expenditures of major agency programs;
- Status of the issuance of bonds for major building projects;
- Potential one-time funding items to be considered by the Legislative Assembly in 2021;
- Federal funding received and anticipated to be received by state agencies;
- Projected revenues, expenditures, and fund balances of major state funds;
- Revised 2021-23 biennium revenue forecasts and preliminary 2023-25 biennium revenue forecasts; and
- Other key budget issues for the 2023 legislative session.

A report on the status of agency compliance with legislative intent has been completed and presented each interim since 1987-88. This report includes the status of state agencies' and institutions' implementation of budget and programmatic changes, the status of legislative directives contained in appropriation bills and other legislation, and the identification of agency budget issues. These reports are also provided to members of the Budget Section for their information.

The type of reporting outlined above will provide the committee with early information on areas needing legislative consideration and action or may be the basis for legislation to be introduced to the Legislative Assembly in 2023.

ASSIGNED REPORTS

In addition to the study responsibilities assigned to the Government Finance Committee for the 2021-22 interim, the committee has also been assigned to receive the following:

- Receive reports from the Office of Management and Budget regarding each executive branch agency that gives any full-time state employee a cumulative salary increase of 15 percent or more between April 1, 2021, and June 30, 2023, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-44-04;
- Receive a semiannual report from the Department of Commerce pursuant to Section 54-60-28 regarding the status of the unmanned aircraft systems test site program, which is administered in cooperation with the University of North Dakota, Aeronautics Commission, Adjutant General, and private parties appointed by the Governor.
- Receive semiannual reports form the Department of Commerce regarding the development of the beyond visual line of sight unmanned aircraft system program and the total amount deposited by the State Treasurer in the general fund pursuant to Section 54-60-29.1.

- Receive at least one report from the Bank of North Dakota during the 2021-22 interim pursuant to Section 36 of Senate Bill No. 2014 (2021) regarding the status of the infrastructure revolving loan fund, the legacy infrastructure loan fund, and the water infrastructure revolving loan fund.
- Receive at least one report from the Department of Commerce during the 2021-22 interim pursuant to Section 2 of Senate Bill No. 2291 (2021) regarding the results and recommendations of the department's study of environmental social governance as it pertains to a set of nonspecific, quantifiable, and nonquantifiable criteria with attributing factors used for making determinations, decisions, or investments in government and private industry in the state.