DRAFT LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION
Under Constitution and Statute
FIRST DAY - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2026

9:00 - 11:15 a.m. New legislators meet in the Brynhild Haugland Room for presentations on the following topics:

- Legislative Council services to legislators (15 minutes) - _____
- Division of powers and duties among the three branches of government - Responsibilities of the legislative branch (15 minutes) - _____
- Legislative branch structure - Committees, officers, employees (10 minutes) - _____
- Affiliated organizations:
  Council of State Governments and Council of State Governments Midwest (20 minutes) - _____
  National Conference of State Legislatures (15 minutes) - _____
  Midwestern Higher Education Commission (15 minutes) - _____
  Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (15 minutes) - _____
  Education Commission of the States (15 minutes) - _____
  Commission on Uniform State Laws (15 minutes) - _____

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Returning legislator laptop computer training session in the Roughrider Room. The session is 90 minutes in length and is limited to 15 legislators. Training courses also are available online as video training that may be taken at your convenience. The Legislative Council Information Technology staff encourages returning legislators to use the video training instead of signing up for classroom training courses. Signup lists are at the Legislative Council reception desk. Training includes a refresher on the laptop computers, virtual private network (VPN), legislative applications, Legislator's Automated Work Station (LAWS) system, document synchronization between laptop and tablet computers, email quota and archive, correspondence templates, printing, and remote desktop support network access.

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Returning legislator tablet computer training session in the Harvest Room. The session will be 90 minutes in length and is limited to 15 legislators. Training courses also are available online as video training that may be taken at your convenience. The Legislative Council Information Technology staff encourages returning legislators to use the video training instead of signing up for classroom training courses. Signup lists are at the Legislative Council reception desk. This training includes VPN, legislative applications, operating system and application updates, creating and editing documents, note taking, document synchronization between laptop and tablet computers, remote network access, and other topics.

1:00 p.m. Senate and House convene in respective chambers

Order of Business

Senate

1. Call to order by the Lieutenant Governor
2. Prayer by Pastor _____
3. Certification of members by Secretary of State
4. Roll call
5. Justice _____ administers Oath of Office to newly elected members
6. Adoption of temporary rules
7. Explanation and distribution of legislators' packets and other materials - _____

House

1. Call to order by Acting Speaker (See NDCC Section 54-03-04)
2. Prayer by Pastor _____
3. Certification of members by Secretary of State
4. Roll call
5. Justice _____ administers Oath of Office to newly elected members
6. Adoption of temporary rules
7. Explanation and distribution of legislators' packets and other materials - _____

1:45 p.m. Recess

2:00 p.m. Caucuses of respective parties for discussion of organizational matters in assigned rooms:
Senate Majority - Pioneer Room
Senate Minority - Fort Lincoln Room
House Majority - Brynhild Haugland Room
House Minority - Prairie Room

2:20 p.m. Senate and House reconvene

Senate	House
8. Election of Secretary of the Senate	8. Election of Chief Clerk of the House
9. Election of Journal Reporter	9. Election of Journal Reporter
10. Election of Sergeant-at-Arms	10. Election of Sergeant-at-Arms
11. Lieutenant Governor administers Oath of Office to Secretary of the Senate, Journal Reporter, and Sergeant-at-Arms	11. Acting Speaker administers Oath of Office to Chief Clerk of the House, Journal Reporter, and Sergeant-at-Arms
12. Election of President Pro Tempore	12. Election of Speaker and administration of Oath of Office by Acting Speaker
13. Selection of seats	13. Selection of seats
14. Appointment of procedural committees:	14. Appointment of procedural committees:
a. Temporary committee to inform Governor and House that Senate is organized (3)	a. Temporary committee to inform Governor and Senate that House is organized (3)
b. Committee on Committees (8)	b. Committee on Committees (11)
c. Delayed Bills (5)	c. Delayed Bills (5)
d. Committee Rooms (3)	d. Committee Rooms (3)
e. Employment (5)	e. Employment (5)
f. Correction and Revision of the Journal (3)	f. Correction and Revision of the Journal (5)
g. Rules (8)	g. Rules (7)

15. Committee and administrative announcements:
    a. Each legislator must meet with the photographer to take an official photograph before adjournment.
    b. Training courses for returning legislators also are available online as video training that may be taken at your convenience. The Legislative Council Information Technology staff encourages returning legislators to use the video training instead of signing up for classroom training courses scheduled for Wednesday. Signup lists are at the Legislative Council reception desk.

3:00 p.m. Adjournment until 8:30 a.m. Wednesday

3:15 p.m. Meeting of Rules and Employment Committees of each house in announced rooms
Meeting of Senate Committee on Committees and House Committee on Committees
Meeting of any other committee at the call of the chairmen as announced prior to recess

3:15 - 5:00 p.m. Returning legislators meet with the photographer to take an official photograph

3:15 - 5:15 p.m. New legislator tablet computer distribution and training session in the Harvest Room. The session will be 2 hours in length and is required to receive equipment. The Legislative Council Information Technology staff will assign legislators to training times.

SECOND DAY - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2026

8:30 a.m. Reconvene in respective chambers
Prayer by chaplain
Senate - Pastor _____
House - Pastor _____
Roll call and announcements

8:40 a.m. **Joint Session - House Chamber**

Report of findings and recommendations of interim committees by the Chairman of the Legislative Management, the Director of the Legislative Council, the Legislative Budget Analyst and Auditor, and the Legal Division Director of the Legislative Council (20 minutes)

Presentation on the workplace harassment policy and legislative ethics and laws, social media, and rules governing the activities and conduct of public officials (10 minutes) - _____

Presentation on workplace harassment and legislative ethics (35 minutes) - *Video*

Remarks on workplace harassment and legislative ethics (10 minutes) - *Majority and Minority Leaders*

Training session on legislator security and best practices (30 minutes)

11:00 a.m. Adjournment until 8:00 a.m. Thursday

11:10 - 11:40 a.m. Majority and Minority Leaders and other interested individuals meet in the Prairie Room for training on receiving and processing workplace harassment complaints (30 minutes) - _____

11:10 a.m. New legislators meet in the Brynhild Haugland Room for presentations and a question and answer session on the legislative process:

- Explanation of the daily routine of the House and Senate - Floor procedures, orders of business, "carrying" bills (10 minutes) - _____
- Explanation of the procedure a bill follows to become law - Introduction, hearings, amendment, crossover, conference committee, final passage, presentation to Governor (10 minutes) - *Video*
- Explanation of unique statutory requirements for certain bills (5 minutes) - _____

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. New legislators meet with the photographer to take an official photograph

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. Returning legislator laptop computer training session in the Roughrider Room. The session is 90 minutes in length and is limited to 15 legislators. Training courses also are available online as video training that may be taken at your convenience. The Legislative Council Information Technology staff encourages returning legislators to use the video training instead of signing up for classroom training courses. Signup lists are at the Legislative Council reception desk. Training includes a refresher on the laptop computers, VPN, legislative applications, LAWS, document synchronization between laptop and tablet computers, email quota and archive, correspondence templates, printing, and remote desktop support network access.

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2:15 p.m. Caucuses of respective parties for discussion of legislative rules amendments:
Senate Majority - Pioneer Room
Senate Minority - Fort Lincoln Room
House Majority - Brynhild Haugland Room
House Minority - Prairie Room
Meetings of committees at call of the committee chairmen

2:45 p.m. Legislators not otherwise occupied meet in the Brynhild Haugland Room for presentations on the purpose and use of legislative documents:
- Bills, resolutions, amendments (committee reports), Session Laws, and North Dakota Century Code - _____
- Daily calendars, weekly committee schedules, journals, and bill status - _____
- Revenues, the budgeting process, budget status reports, fiscal notes, and executive budget report - *Legislative Council Fiscal Staff*
- Library Orientation - Legislative Council's library and records - _____

2:45 - 4:15 p.m. New legislators meet with the photographer to take an official photograph

2:45 - 4:15 p.m. Returning legislator laptop computer training session in the Roughrider Room. The session is 90 minutes in length and is limited to 15 legislators. Training courses also are available online as video training that may be taken at your convenience. The Legislative Council Information Technology staff encourages returning legislators to use the video training instead of signing up for classroom training courses. Signup lists are at the Legislative Council reception desk. Training includes a refresher on the laptop computers, VPN, legislative applications, LAWS, document synchronization between laptop and tablet computers, email quota and archive, correspondence templates, printing, and remote desktop support network access.

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THIRD DAY - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2026

8:00 a.m. Call to order in respective chambers
Prayer by chaplain
Senate - Pastor _____
House - Pastor _____
Roll call
Recess

8:10 a.m. Caucuses of respective parties for discussion of committee assignments:
Senate Majority - Pioneer Room
Senate Minority - Fort Lincoln Room
House Majority - Brynhild Haugland Room
House Minority - Prairie Room

8:40 a.m. Reconvene
Committee reports (including announcements of standing committee appointments)
Selection and administration of oath of any officer not selected on Tuesday
Adoption of permanent rules
All other unfinished business
Announcements

9:40 a.m.	Recess
9:55 a.m.	Reconvene in House Chamber
10:00 a.m.	**Joint Session - House Chamber** Presentation by the Governor of the executive budget and revenue proposals
10:45 a.m.	Adjourn
11:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Budget Section convenes in the Senate Chamber to receive detailed information regarding the executive budget and to conduct other business. All legislators named to the Appropriations Committees, the Majority and Minority Leaders and their assistants, and the Speaker of the House serve on the Budget Section. Other legislators also may attend the Budget Section meeting.
12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.	Returning legislators meet with the photographer to take an official photograph
12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.	New legislator tablet computer distribution and training session in the Harvest Room. The session will be 2 hours in length and is required to receive equipment. The Legislative Council Information Technology staff will assign legislators to training times.
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.	New committee chairmen meet in the Prairie Room to review the desk manual for committee chairmen - _____
5:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Mentorship opportunity - Question and answer session for new and returning committee chairmen