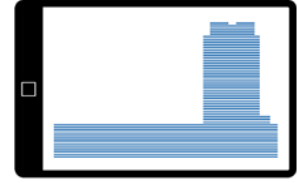




The Capitol Tablet

ND Legislative News

Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent
North Dakota Department of Public Instruction
"How are the children?"



Jan. 24, 2025

We're continuing to get requests from folks who want to be put on the mailing list for the Capitol Tablet, and we're grateful to be asked. All it takes is an email to dewetzel@nd.gov with the words "Capitol Tablet" somewhere in the subject line or the body of the email.

In most of the messages we get, our correspondents describe their connection to the education community as they ask to be added to the mailing list. It's great to hear this information, but it isn't necessary to include it. You only need an email address to get our newsletter. You don't even need to be an educator, and many of our subscribers are not.

As the final legislative bill introduction deadline approaches, the Tablet is getting awfully long. This week's edition has more than 50 pages.

There are several reasons for this. First, the number of House bills alone is greater than it has been in more than three decades, and education has been an especially popular topic for legislation, with subjects ranging from student cell phone use to school construction costs, new scholarship programs, expanded opportunities for nontraditional education, and whether to provide free school meals to all students.

Property tax relief and reform is another major emphasis of the 2025 Legislature, and we follow the numerous property tax bills that have been presented thus far, because of the importance of local revenues to our school districts. We also track a number of human services bills, and proposals of interest to state employees.

We do remove bills from the Tablet list if they are defeated or withdrawn, or if we conclude they are of extremely limited interest. For example, this week we dropped a Senate bill that probably affects fewer than a dozen people. But if history is any guide, the Tablet will remain a fairly lengthy document. We appreciate your patience.

Have a glorious weekend!

Department of Public Instruction
2025 Legislature Bill Tracker
Friday, Jan. 24, 2025
(Changes from Previous Week in Red)

Bills Are Listed in Numerical Order
Newly Listed Bills Begin at HB1468 and SB2324

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1012	Appropriations	Budget for the Department of Health and Human Services.	House Appropriations	Hearings 1/27 through 1/31
HB1013	Appropriations	Budget for the Department of Public Instruction, the Center for Distance Education, the State Library, the School for the Deaf/Resource Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind.	House Appropriations	Hearing 9a, 1/27
HB1024	Appropriations	Appropriation bill for the Adjutant General and the attorney general to provide funds for the current state budget period. This is known as the “deficiency appropriation” bill.	House Appropriations	Hearing 9a, 1/30
HB1030	Interim Judiciary Committee	Changes state law references from “drug court” to “treatment court.”	House Judiciary	Approved by House, 89-1, 1/10

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1036	Interim Workforce Committee	Creates a division of apprenticeship within the state Department of Labor and Human Rights, directs the division to collaborate with the U.S. Department of Labor on apprenticeship programs, and orders development of a pilot program to support businesses that want to develop apprenticeships. Authorizes three positions for the division and appropriates \$650,000 to hire staff.	House Industry, Business and Labor	Hearing Held, 1/22
HB1048	Supreme Court	Bars mediation agreements from being shown to a judge unless they are signed by the parties involved. Requires mediators to inform a judge whether a mediation agreement was reached.	House Judiciary	Approved by House, 93-0, 1/15
HB1049	State Board of Examiners on Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology	Requires a speech-language pathology assistant licensee to have at least 100 hours of supervised clinical experience and a two-year degree in a speech-language pathology assistants' program or a bachelor's degree in another field with coursework in communications disorders.	House Human Services	Approved by House, 88-0, 1/20

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1067	Department of Health and Human Services	Orders the Department of Human Services to provide medical assistance benefits to eligible children who are “lawfully present in the United States.”	House Human Services	Hearing Held, 1/14
HB1070	Department of Health and Human Services	Changes the family income threshold for eligibility for the Children’s Health Insurance Program.	House Human Services	Approved by House, 93-0, 1/14
HB1072	Department of Health and Human Services	Allows payments to guardians for children in foster care if the Department of Health and Human Services grants subsidy approval. Allows the department to deny or revoke a foster care facility license or certification if a court has ordered a child to be removed from the facility within the previous five years.	House Human Services	Approved by House, 92-0, 1/16
HB1081	Office of Management and Budget	Eliminates a requirement that state agencies include in their financial statements all of their fixed assets that are worth more than \$5,000. Also abolishes a requirement to prepare an analysis of decisions to lease assets. (Repeals NDCC 54-27-21 and 54-27-21.1)	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Approved by House, 93-0, 1/14

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1095	Rep. Kiefert	Authorizes a school district to appoint a child protective services liaison and lists training requirements for the liaison.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/13
HB1098	Rep. Jonas	Adds coursework needed to qualify for North Dakota Scholarships that would benefit students who intend to pursue teaching careers.	House Education	Amended, Do Pass, 13-1, 1/23
HB1100	Rep. Jonas	Requires unspent state general funds allocated for free school meals during the 2023-25 biennium to be used for school district grants to pay off lunch debts. Requires the superintendent of public instruction to collect school lunch debt information from districts.	House Appropriations	Re-Referred to House Appropriations
HB1105	Rep. Jonas	Allows school districts to impose time limits on virtual instruction, restrict access to certain time periods, and establish student eligibility requirements for virtual instruction.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/14
HB1109	Department of Health and Human Services	Changes “treatment or care center” to “provider agency” when referring to entities that provide services to the developmentally disabled. Outlines circumstances under which a provider agency may have its operating license restricted or revoked.	House Human Services	Approved by House, 93-0, 1/16

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1117	Retirement and Investment Office	Changes schedule of required minimum distribution payments from the Teachers' Fund for Retirement to conform with new federal laws.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Approved by House, 87-0, 1/21
HB1119	Department of Health and Human Services	Combines several types of licenses for child-care providers. Removes the option of getting a two-year license at a \$5 savings.	House Human Services	Hearing 11a, 1/27
HB1122	Rep. Nelson	Allows state employees to buy goods directly from Rough Rider Industries, which is the state penitentiary's manufacturing operation.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Approved by House, 92-1, 1/22
HB1129	Rep. Richter	Appropriates \$1.25 million for Department of Public Instruction study of student absenteeism in grades K-12.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/14
HB1130	Rep. Richter	Gives school districts an option for changing how their state aid payments are calculated. Generally, the changes could benefit school districts with oil and gas income and other revenue sources that are not taxed on property value, such as revenue from wind farms and telecommunications.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/14
HB1132	Rep. Holle	Authorizes public and nonpublic schools to establish policies allowing schools to use bulk milk dispensers to serve milk.	House Agriculture	Approved by House, 87-0, 1/21

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1133	Rep. Longmuir	Requires county superintendents of schools to preserve records of their official acts and records acquired by the office that have “educational value or interest.”	House Education	Approved by House, 85-3, 1/24
HB1134	Rep. Heilman	Adds a new definition of harassment that covers “doxxing,” i.e. electronic communication and publication of an individual’s personal identifying information on a public internet site or public forum. The offense is punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$3,000 fine.	House Judiciary	Amended, Do Pass, 10-1, 1/23
HB1138	Rep. Pyle	Allows local boards more latitude in scheduling bond elections.	House Political Subdivisions	Approved by House, 90-0, 1/17
HB1141	Rep. Toman	Prohibits state and local agencies from joining or supporting any private organization that has, within the past 10 years, endorsed political candidates or taken a public stand on ballot measures. Says public officeholders may be held personally liable if they “perform an action outside the scope of the individual's official duties as an officeholder.”	House Industry, Business and Labor	Hearing 10a, 1/27

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1144	Rep. Tveit	Requires multi-person shower rooms or restrooms on school grounds to be designated for males or females only. Prohibits multi-stall, gender-neutral restrooms and shower rooms. Bans any policy that requires students to be addressed by their preferred pronouns.	House Human Services	Hearing 3:15p, 1/27
HB1145	Rep. Hoverson	Requires North Dakota public colleges and public schools to display the Ten Commandments in each classroom and building. Specifies the Ten Commandments language to be posted.	House Judiciary	Hearing Held, 1/14
HB1146	Rep. Lefor	Regulates state government contributions to the defined benefit pension plan for state employees.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing Held, 1/17
HB1160	Rep. Jonas	Orders school districts to adopt policies that govern restrictions of student cell phone use at school. The policies must include medical and educational accommodations and provisions for using a cell phone in emergencies that affect the health, safety, or well-being of a student or staff member.	House Education	Amended, Do Pass, 13-1, 1/23

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1163	Rep. Jonas	Establishes a \$1 billion school construction loan fund as part of the state Legacy Fund. Limits loan interest rates to 1 percent annually and 20 years duration. Loans limited to \$10 million total or \$10 million per thousand students in the school district, whichever is higher.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/15
HB1164	Rep. Schrieber-Beck	Changes definition of “student with a disability” as it relates to being deaf or hard of hearing.	House Human Services	Approved by House, 92-1, 1/16
HB1168	Rep. Louser	Limits taxing districts to 3 percent growth in property tax revenues per year. Allows unused property tax revenue authority to be carried forward for as many as five years.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing Held, 1/15
HB1170	Rep. Motschenbacher	Provides 40 hours of leave for newly hired state employees, which may be used in their first year of employment.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Approved by House, 54-40, 1/22
HB1171	Rep. Heinert	Establishes a “law enforcement family scholarship program” for dependents of correctional officers, emergency services providers, professional firefighters, or peace officers who have worked full time in a position for at least three years. Appropriates \$5 million for the scholarships.	House Political Subdivisions	Hearing Held, 1/23

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1172	Rep. Heinert	Removes a school district's requirement to pay a student's course fees if the student takes courses from the Center for Distance Education. Districts would have to pay course fees only if they did not offer the student's chosen course during the semester, or if it was not offered during a time when the student could fit it into his or her class schedule.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/22
HB1176	Rep. Nathe	Authorizes the Legacy Fund to provide enough earnings to pay for a residential property tax credit of up to \$2,000 annually per homeowner.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing Held, 1/14
HB1178	Rep. Novak	Requires school districts to adopt policies to allow students who are eligible to vote to leave campus during the school day to vote in a general, primary, or special election.	House Political Subdivisions	Approved by House, 86-1, 1/21
HB1181	Rep. S. Olson	Requires any entity that receives state money to refer to males and females, as established by their DNA or their sex determined at birth. This policy would apply to all policies, records, forms, rules, standards, procedures, guides, materials, instruction, training, correspondence, advertising, or marketing.	House Human Services	Hearing Held, 1/21

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1188	Rep. Lefor	Regulates fees charged to school districts based on their students' use of programs at area career and technology centers.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/22
HB1196	Rep. Jonas	Requires the Bureau of Criminal Investigation to provide criminal history background checks to the requesting agency within three days after the check has been completed.	House Judiciary	Withdrawn, 1/23
HB1199	Rep. Holle	Creates a task force on missing indigenous people, which includes the superintendent of public instruction, to do research and make recommendations on how to reduce the number of murdered or missing indigenous people. Appropriates \$250,000 for a missing indigenous people grant fund.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing Held, 1/23
HB1200	Rep. Louser	Allows a high school student to substitute an "alternative course" for no more than one unit that is required for graduation, "if the student demonstrates an emergent circumstance."	House Education	Amended, Do Pass, 14-0, 1/22
HB1214	Rep. Richter	Establishes new method for paying state transportation aid to school districts.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/21

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1220	Rep. Motschenbacher	Authorizes the North Dakota University System to offer “accelerated degrees,” for which students will not be required to earn general education credits, for “high-demand occupations.”	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/20
HB1222	Rep. Novak	Requires public school students to say the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each school day. A student must stand at attention with right hand over heart when saying the Pledge, and males must remove any head covering that does not have a religious purpose.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1223	Rep. Jonas	Allows schools more flexibility in their policies for suspending or expelling students, with the length of the penalty depending on the severity of the offense, the student’s age, and the student’s disciplinary history.	House Education	Amended, Do Pass, 14-0, 1/23
HB1238	Rep. Ista	Says an instructor who has been licensed to teach in North Dakota for 20 years must be granted a lifetime license. This time period is shortened from 30 years.	House Education	Approved by House, 79-12, 1/24

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1244	Rep. Schatz	Provides a state income tax credit of up to \$1,000 per child each year for home schooling expenses. If a married person is filing a separate tax return, the maximum credit is \$500 .	House Finance and Taxation	Amended, Do Pass, 8-6, 1/23
HB1247	Rep. D. Johnston	Bans a student who has been found to have sexually assaulted another student from attending the same school as the student sexual assault victim.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/22
HB1251	Rep. Osowski	Prohibits schools from holding any extracurricular activities on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, or Christmas, which are defined as "family days."	House Education	Defeated by House, 30-61, 1/24
HB1257	Rep. Hendrix	Requires the Legislature's organizational session to last at least five days, and include reports by each constitutional office and information about procedures of legislative committees.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing Held, 1/23
HB1261	Rep. Schreiber-Beck	Repeals a legislative order that the Department of Public Instruction offer credentials for special education strategists and provisional special education strategists. (Repeals 15.1-18-05 and 15.1-18-06)	House Education	Do Pass, 14-0, 1/23

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1282	Rep. Brandenburg	Provides fertility health benefits (e.g., in vitro fertilization) to state employees for two years as a pilot program. Requires a report from the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System about the program's usage and costs, and a recommendation about whether it should be continued.	House Human Services	Hearing 11:30a, 1/29
HB1284	Rep. Brandenburg	Provides fertility preservation benefits (e.g. egg freezing) to state employees for two years as a pilot program. Requires a report from the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System about the program's usage and costs.	House Human Services	Hearing 3p, 1/29
HB1285	Rep. Schatz	Authorizes a cost-of-living payment to retired members of the Teachers' Fund for Retirement. Appropriates \$49.2 million for the payment.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing 8:30a, 1/30
HB1288	Rep. Nehring	Allows anyone to ask the state Board of Public School Education to review whether a school district is complying with an "education-related state statute." Orders the attorney general to assess and investigate review requests.	House Education	Hearing Held, 1/22

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1294	Rep. Novak	Raises the fine for illegally overtaking or passing a school bus from \$100 to \$500.	House Transportation	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1300	Rep. Koppelman	Affects how service time in the Legislature is calculated.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing Held, 1/23
HB1306	Rep. Kasper	Allows an open records requester who is a North Dakota resident to make one request annually without charge that could take a government entity up to 40 hours to fulfill.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1308	Rep. Satrom	Requires the attorney general to establish a human trafficking commission. Provides legal immunity for teachers who report suspected cases of human trafficking in good faith.	House Human Services	Hearing Held, 1/22
HB1312	Rep. Satrom	Moves elections for school and park boards from the spring to the November general election.	House Political Subdivisions	Hearing Held, 1/24
HB1320	Rep. Christy	Makes it a crime, punishable by a year in jail and a \$3,000 fine, to have almost anything to do with creating a deepfake video or image without the consent of the person depicted.	House Judiciary	Defeated by House, 17-69, 1/21

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1328	Rep. Heinert	Requires a school to exhaust all school discipline policies before referring a child to juvenile court.	House Judiciary	Hearing Held, 1/21
HB1329	Rep. O'Brien	Requires the superintendent of public instruction to contract for training for school board members. Requires the state treasurer to collect an assortment of fiscal data from local governments, including textbook authors and publishers, curriculum descriptions, and software information from local school districts.	House Education	Hearing 10a, 1/28
HB1333	Rep. Heilman	Requires school districts to provide at least 30 minutes for lunch between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Allows students to use part of the half-hour break to do something else if they have written permission from a school counselor.	House Education	Hearing 2:30p, 1/28
HB1335	Rep. Christianson	Lowers the minimum age for the homestead tax credit from 65 to 62 years of age. Allows a 100 percent reduction in a home's taxable valuation, with a \$9,000 limit, if the homeowner's income is \$70,000 or less, and a 50 percent reduction, with a limit of \$4,500, if a homeowner's income is \$100,000 or less.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing Held, 1/22

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1338	Rep. M. Ruby	Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to notify a military installation's family advocacy program about allegations of child abuse or neglect that involve a "military-affiliated individual."	House Human Services	Hearing Held, 1/21
HB1343	Rep. Koppelman	Says a lien for unpaid property taxes or special assessments has priority over any other judgment against real property, except for liens for unpaid child support.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing Held, 1/22
HB1351	Rep. Satrom	Makes it a crime, punishable by a year in jail and a \$3,000 fine, to produce, promote, advertise, broadcast or transmit a sexually explicit deepfake video or image.	House Judiciary	Hearing Held, 1/20
HB1353	Rep. Koppelman	Limits property tax revenue increases on property to 3 percent annually. Allows a carry-forward for up to three years for any unused authority to raise property taxes.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 9a, 1/27

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1355	Rep. Steiner	Requires agencies to prepare a simplified summary of proposed administrative rule changes for publication in the newspaper.	House Political Subdivisions	Hearing 3:30p, 1/30
HB1357	Rep. Morton	Requires a state entity to obtain a data sharing agreement with a school district in order to share student data.	House Education	Hearing 9a, 1/28
HB1358	Rep. Murphy	Orders the Department of Public Instruction to develop applications and policies for the establishment of public charter schools. Limits the number of charter schools to 12 for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years, and 15 for the 2027-28 and 2028-29 school years.	House Education	Hearing 9:30a, 1/28
HB1363	Rep. Meier	Requires the Department of Public Instruction to develop a customizable cardiac emergency response plan for public and nonpublic schools.	House Education	Hearing 4p, 1/27
HB1365	Rep. Koppelman	Removes a state ban on possessing firearms within a church or public building. Authorizes local governments to enact bans on possessing firearms within the public areas of public buildings. Firearms remain banned on school property or within a school-sponsored event.	House Energy and Natural Resources	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1368	Rep. Koppelman	Allows the Legislature's Administrative Rules Committee to void proposed administrative rules if there is "an absence of necessity" or "an absence of reasonableness."	House Political Subdivisions	Hearing 3p, 1/30
HB1369	Rep. Heinert	Changes weighting factors for state local education aid formula. Raises per-student payment. Transfers \$100 million from foundation aid stabilization fund to school construction loan fund.	House Education	Hearing 9a, 1/29
HB1376	Rep. Bosch	Requires each high school to offer training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and stopping severe bleeding to students each year.	House Education	Hearing 3:30p, 1/27
HB1381	Rep. Brandenburg	Modifies the state education finance formula.	House Education	Hearing 3p, 1/28
HB1387	Rep. Heinert	Requires schools to be closed on national, state or local election days if the school is used as a polling place.	House Education	Hearing 3p, 1/27
HB1390	Rep. Koppelman	Makes someone who is 65 years old or older, has annual income of \$70,000 or less, and is permanently and totally disabled eligible for a tax credit that can be applied against special assessments.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing Held, 1/22

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1404	Rep. Schreiber-Beck	Replaces the ACT with the NDA+ assessment when determining whether a student qualifies for a North Dakota Scholarship.	House Education	Hearing 10a, 1/29
HB1408	Rep. Bahl	Requires annual sessions of the Legislature, with sessions scheduled within a period of 70 calendar days each year.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1434	Rep. O'Brien	Requires an expiration date for administrative rules.	House Political Subdivisions	Hearing 2:30p, 1/30
HB1439	Rep. Jonas	Allows a school district to expel a student for up to 12 months, which can extend beyond the current school year. The district must consider the severity of the infraction, the student's age, and his or her disciplinary history in deciding whether to reduce the length of the expulsion.	House Education	Withdrawn, 1/17
HB1449	Rep. Jonas	Says a school district must make a "reasonable effort" to hire a full-time counselor for every 300 students in a school.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1456	Rep. S. Olson	Allows schools to “employ or accept as a volunteer” a chaplain to provide services to students and staff who is endorsed by a religious organization or certified by a chaplaincy organization. Appropriates \$500,000 to the Department of Public Instruction for chaplain salaries, training, oversight and governance, and for evaluating the chaplaincy program.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1468	Rep. Bosch	Appropriates \$16 million to the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a behavioral health facility in west-central North Dakota.	House Human Services	Hearing 2:30p, 1/28
HB1472	Rep. Morton	Authorizes a “microschool” that may have no more than 50 students; may be established in a home, public space, church, or other nontraditional properties; and requires only that a teacher have a high school diploma or its equivalent.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1474	Rep. Toman	Authorizes local governments to levy square footage taxes on land and structures.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 10a, 1/27

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1475	Rep. Hatlestad	Requires students at all K-12 schools, including public, nonpublic, and tribal schools, to be furnished breakfast and lunch during school days at no cost to the student.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1476	Rep. Novak	Requires the Department of Public Instruction to regularly assess all school buildings, including the interior and exteriors, doors, windows, sprinkler systems, heating/cooling and security systems. The assessments would include recommended maintenance for each building.	House Education	Hearing 2:30p, 1/29
HB1477	Rep. Hanson	Forbids the state and any local government from restricting access to “assisted reproduction services and fertility treatment.” Says individuals have the right to receive fertility treatments and make agreements with health care providers for handling and storing reproductive material.	House Human Services	Hearing 10:30a, 1/29
HB1482	Rep. Wagner	Says any vote on raising a local government’s debt limit must take place in a primary or general election. The special election option is removed.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 10:30a, 1/27

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1490	Rep. Vigesaa	Requires school counselors to have psychological evaluations every two years before they may counsel students without a school faculty member also being present.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1491	Rep. Rios	Allows students to change schools more easily to participate in sports and extracurricular activities.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1492	Rep. Christy	Appropriates \$24 million to the Department of Public Instruction for a science museum construction project. Requires at least \$24 million in local matching funds for the project.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1494	Rep. Jonas	Provides more state aid for school districts for teaching students who are not proficient in English.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1497	Rep. Maki	Allows children to enroll in an education program for 4-year-olds if the child turns 4 by December of the year he or she enrolls. Under current law, the child has to turn 4 by August of the year he or she enrolls.	House Education	Hearing, 3p, 1/29

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1498	Rep. Maki	Gives school boards authority to offer first-year signing bonuses to newly hired teachers.	House Education	Hearing 3p, 1/29
HB1510	Rep. Schreiber-Beck	Requires the Bank of North Dakota, the Teachers' Fund for Retirement, and a teacher support program coordinator to gather information from school districts about their teacher pay and benefits. Authorizes a school district to provide child-care facilities for its teachers on school property.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1516	Rep. Foss	Requires school boards to put one or two of their teachers on the board to represent the interests of educational employees. The teachers would serve one-year terms and could participate in meetings but would not have voting power.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1517	Rep. Jonas	Directs the Board of Higher Education to create a student teacher scholarship program for prospective classroom teachers. The scholarship would be limited to \$3,000 for the student's teaching semester.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1527	Rep. Maki	Requires schools to include instruction on antisemitism and the Holocaust in the required curriculum on U.S. history. Orders the Department of Public Instruction to provide annual reports about whether the antisemitism/Holocaust directive is being followed.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1530	Rep. Schneider	Requests an interim legislative study about the shortage of special education teachers and the “circumstances and collective needs of special education.”	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1533	Rep. Pyle	Requires a half-unit of financial literacy instruction for a student to graduate from high school. The half-unit could be substituted for instruction in career and technical education, social studies, or mathematics.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1536	Rep. Davis	Appropriates \$1.5 million to the Department of Public Instruction to implement a Native American history curriculum for the 2025-27 biennium, including \$600,000 for curriculum materials and \$300,000 for teacher professional development.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1540	Rep. Koppelman	Authorizes education savings accounts to pay for student education expenses.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1547	Rep. Richter	Requires an interim legislative study of special education funding.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1548	Rep. Monson	Appropriates \$10 million to the Department of Health and Human Services for construction of a fitness center to benefit residents of the Life Skills and Transition Center at Grafton.	House Human Services	Hearing 3p, 1/28
HB1553	Rep. Hager	Appropriates \$140 million from the Legacy Fund to provide school meals at no charge for students in public and nonpublic schools.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1559	Rep. Schauer	Freezes the taxable valuation of real property at its average valuation over the previous three years, excluding the value of improvements.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 9:30a, 1/28
HB1560	Rep. Toman	Provides a homeowner who has owned his or her property for 30 years or more with an annual reduction of up to \$18,000 in taxable valuation.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 9a, 1/28

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1562	Rep. Osowski	Requires public and nonpublic school teachers, administrators, and counselors to undergo training in in how to spot suspected child abuse or neglect before they are initially licensed, and when they renew their licenses.	House Human Services	Hearing 10a, 1/27
HB1563	Rep. Davis	Requires an interim legislative study of the taxation of tribal land owned by enrolled tribal members.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 10a, 1/29
HB1565	Rep. Brown	Requires the Department of Public Instruction to provide a grant to a tribally controlled school to defray the cost of educating non-Native students.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1569	Rep. Richter	Requires school districts to offer instruction on sex trafficking awareness and prevention, beginning with the 2027-28 school year and beginning in the seventh grade. Requires the superintendent of public instruction to either approve the teaching materials used by the school district or supply an approved curriculum.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1572	Rep. Hagert	Requires the Tax Department to develop and implement a uniform system for local taxing districts to report annual budget data, fund balances, property tax values and tax rates, and property tax revenue amounts.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 9a, 1/29
HB1575	Rep. Weisz	Establishes a primary residential property tax classification and makes a homeowner eligible for 3 percent annual reductions in the assessed value of that primary residential property.	House Finance and Taxation	Hearing 10:30a, 1/28
HB1580	Rep. Vetter	Requests an interim study of the compensation system for classified state employees, including comparisons to private sector compensation and employee retention and equity bonuses.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing 2:30p, 1/30

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1588	Rep. Heinert	Removes the ban on firearms possession in a “publicly owned or operated building,” (the category does not include schools), public rest areas and restrooms, and state or federal parks. Allows the governor to carry a firearm in a public gathering.	House Energy and Natural Resources	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1599	Rep. O’Brien	Makes pregnant state employees eligible for leave-sharing contributions from other state employees.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing 3p, 1/30
HB1604	Rep. Murphy	Establishes a \$600 million school construction fund, outlines a state subsidy payment schedule for school construction projects, and puts the superintendent of public instruction in charge of overseeing architect selection for projects.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1606	Rep. Heilman	Raises the minimum accrual of sick leave for state employees from eight to 10 hours per month.	House Government and Veterans Affairs	Hearing 3:30p, 1/30

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
HB1607	Rep. Heilman	Establishes “educational empowerment accounts” for parents to use in paying authorized education expenses. Students who benefit from the accounts may not be enrolled in public school or be home-educated.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HB1618	Rep. Finley-DeVille	Appropriates \$1.4 million to the Department of Public Instruction to provide a tribal school infrastructure grant.	House Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
HCR3002	Rep. Louser	Amends the North Dakota Constitution to allow betting on professional and college sports and says all tax revenue from sports wagering must go to benefit K-12 education.	House Judiciary	Defeated in House, 24-70, 1/22
SB2003	Appropriations	Budget for the North Dakota University System.	Senate Appropriations	Hearings Held, 1/20-1/21
SB2019	Appropriations	Budget for the Department of Career and Technical Education.	Senate Appropriations	Hearing Held, 1/23

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2029	Interim Government Finance	Establishes an office of guardianship and conservatorship under the North Dakota Supreme Court to develop policies and procedures and ethical standards for guardians and conservators.	Senate Judiciary	Hearing Held, 1/20
SB2030	Interim Government Services	Appropriates \$1 million to the Department of Public Instruction for homeless assistance grants for North Dakota's 10 largest school districts.	Senate Appropriations	Hearing Held, 1/21
SB2036	Interim Juvenile Justice	Creates a definition of "fitness to proceed" that requires a juvenile to be evaluated to determine whether the juvenile can assist in his or her criminal defense. Codifies a juvenile's due process rights.	Senate Appropriations	Hearing 9a, 1/28
SB2037	Interim Juvenile Justice	Changes how certain penalties may be imposed for minors for delinquent conduct, including sex offender registration, prohibition from possessing firearms, and suspension of driving privileges.	Senate Appropriations	Amended, Re- Referred to Senate Appropriations, 1/17

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2043	Education Standards and Practices Board	Treats teacher license suspension and revocation proceedings alike when a teacher is accused of sexual offenses or crimes against a child, regardless of whether the charges are brought in state or federal court.	Senate Education	Approved by Senate, 47-0, 1/16
SB2048	Information Technology Department	Provides flexibility for state agencies in filing and updating information technology plans and requires that agency plans be aligned to state information technology initiatives.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Held, 1/9
SB2049	Information Technology Department	Increases the number of members of the executive steering committee for a major information technology project from five to seven.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Held, 1/9
SB2055	ND Supreme Court	Corrects a reference in state law relating to the release of juvenile records.	Senate Judiciary	Approved by Senate, 46-0, 1/10
SB2061	Department of Transportation	Expands the number of railroad crossings that may be posted as "exempt," which means school buses are not required to stop at them.	Senate Transportation	Approved by Senate, 47-0, 1/13

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2066	Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Allows state employees to buy products directly from Rough Rider Industries, which is the state prison's manufacturing operation.	Senate Industry and Business	Hearing Held, 1/8
SB2072	Office of Management and Budget	Raises the money threshold for allowing agencies to buy "routine or standardized products" from \$1,000 to \$20,000, if there is no reasonable risk that doing so will impose "an improper contractual obligation" on the agency.	Senate State and Local Government	Approved by Senate, 46-0, 1/10
SB2084	Office of Management and Budget	Says in-state lodging rates for North Dakota employees must be the same as the federal General Services Administration's rates for the city, plus any applicable taxes. The state Office of Management and Budget is given authority to set lodging rates when the federal rate is not available.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Held, 1/17

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2096	Sen. Mathern	Establishes four regional acute psychiatric treatment service regions. Appropriates \$100 million to provide treatment services and housing, or to contract with private entities to offer them. Appropriates \$5 million for renovations at the State Hospital in Jamestown for facilities to provide acute psychiatric treatment to mentally ill individuals who are undergoing involuntary treatment in state correctional custody.	Senate Appropriations	Hearing Held, 1/20
SB2099	Sen. Mathern	Requires the Department of Public Instruction to post information about cardiac arrest symptoms and warning signs on its website. Requires athletes to review information about cardiac arrest, and coaches to undergo training about it.	Senate Education	Defeated in Senate, 14-33, 1/22
SB2104	Sen. Beard	Allows any North Dakota resident to submit complaints to the Department of Public Instruction about a school district's "failure to comply with an education-related law or rule." Requires the superintendent to issue compliance guidance to school districts and gives the superintendent authority to withhold state aid from repeat offenders.	Senate Education	Hearing Held, 1/21

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2105	Sen. Beard	Restricts when surveys may be administered to K-12 students to obtain information from them.	Senate Education	Hearing Held, 1/21
SB2112	Department of Health and Human Services	Allows minors who are not eligible for developmental disability services to receive certain services at the Life Skills and Transition Center at Grafton.	Senate Human Services	Hearing Held, 1/22
SB2113	Department of Health and Human Services	Changes the name of state human service centers to “State Operated Behavioral Health Clinics.” Extends the life of the “cross-disability advisory council” until Aug. 1, 2027.	Senate Human Services	Hearing 10a, 1/28
SB2126	Commission on Uniform State Laws	Adopts the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.	Senate Judiciary	Approved by Senate, 47-0, 1/16
SB2134	Sen. Roers	Allows the state treasurer and superintendent of public instruction to name designees to the board of directors of the Teachers’ Fund for Retirement.	Senate State and Local Government	Approved by Senate, 47-0, 1/21
SB2146	Sen. Roers	Adopts the occupational therapy licensure compact.	Senate Workforce Development	Approved by Senate, 47-0, 1/17

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2147	Sen. Sickler	Provides supplemental college student financial assistance grants for students with family incomes of less than \$80,000 annually.	Senate Appropriations	Re-Referred to Appropriations, 1/22
SB2149	Sen. Schaible	Provides \$20 million in low-interest school construction loans for projects on North Dakota's U.S. Air Force bases.	Senate Education	Hearing 2:15p, 1/29
SB2158	Sen. Schaible	Says up to \$500,000 of the leftover cash balance of a dissolved school district may be given to another political subdivision within the district before it is distributed as a tax credit to the district's property taxpayers.	Senate Finance and Taxation	Approved by Senate, 38-9, 1/23
SB2160	Sen. Davison	Shifts active state employees and retirees who are not on Medicare into the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System's "non-grandfathered" health insurance plan. This is expected to increase the cost of the health insurance plan.	Senate Human Services	Hearing Held, 1/21
SB2169	Sen. Burckhard	Requires a physical therapist to obtain informed consent from a patient or the patient's representative about an overall plan of care.	Senate Human Services	Hearing 9a, 1/27

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2176	Sen. Axtman	Re-establishes the state children’s cabinet, provides authority for working groups to develop policies affecting children and families, orders annual reports to the Legislature, appropriates \$220,000 for administrative costs.	Senate Human Services	Hearing 9a, 1/28
SB2180	Sen. Paulson	Requires meetings of public entities to set aside time for public comment, which may not be subject to prior approval.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Held, 1/24
SB2182	Sen. Paulson	Allows a proposed administrative rule to be amended by the Legislature’s Administrative Rules Committee if the committee and an agency representative agree the change is reasonable. Allows an agency or interested party to demand reconsideration of a proposed rule change.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Held, 1/24
SB2184	Sen. Clemens	Authorizes a judge to order additional child parenting time for a parent who is falsely accused of harming a child.	Senate Judiciary	Hearing Held, 1/21

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2187	Sen. Roers	Raises lodging reimbursement for state employees and legislators. Sets lodging reimbursement for state employees at the same rate set by the federal General Services Administration for state workers.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Held, 1/24
SB2196	Sen. Roers	Authorizes students to use a self-administered epinephrine nasal spray to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction.	Senate Human Services	Approved by Senate, 47-0, 1/22
SB2198	Sen. Boschee	Affects leave pay for state or local government employees who are members of the National Guard or the armed forces reserve.	Senate Workforce Development	Hearing Held, 1/24
SB2201	Sen Weber	Provides a \$500 property tax credit for a primary residence for 2025 and retroactively for the 2024 tax year. Broadens the definition of primary residence and who may qualify for the credit. Extends the credit to primary residences that are owned in trust.	Senate Appropriations	Hearing Held, 1/24

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2213	Sen. Schaible	Institutes new education and professional development requirements for mathematics teachers. Requires the superintendent of public instruction to adopt rules governing mathematics curriculum and teacher professional development in math. Appropriates \$1.2 million to the Department of Public Instruction to support improved math instruction in grades kindergarten through eight.	Senate Education	Hearing 2:15p, 1/28
SB2234	Sen. Davison	Appropriates \$2 million to the Department of Public Instruction for competitive Choice Ready grants to school districts to assist high school students.	Senate Education	Hearing 2:15p, 1/27
SB2239	Sen. Boschee	Appropriates \$1.1 million to the Department of Labor and Human Rights to administer an apprenticeship grant program.	Senate Workforce Development	Hearing 9a, 1/30

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2241	Sen. Axtman	Allows for public charter schools, which would be approved by the state superintendent of public instruction. Exempts public charter schools from some state education laws and rules.	Senate Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
SB2244	Sen. Paulson	Says a parent has a fundamental right to primary control of the care, supervision, upbringing, and education of the parent's child. Requires school boards to create plans to encourage parent participation in the school district. Requires a parent's written consent before the parent's child receives instruction about gender stereotypes, gender identity, sexual orientation or sexual relationships.	Senate Judiciary	Hearing 10a, 1/29
SB2251	Sen. Cleary	Allows the state auditor to subpoena records or testimony directly related to an audit or review.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing 10a, 1/30
SB2258	Sen. Beard	Allows anyone to report to the governor's office any suspected instance that a state agency has exceeded its authority in enforcing an administrative rule. Requires the governor's office to investigate any reports.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2259	Sen. Lee	Abolishes a requirement that county, city, township, or school district officers provide forms needed to make proper records and transact official business connected with their respective offices.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing 9:46a, 1/31
SB2262	Sen. Braunberger	Authorizes the K-12 Education Coordination Council to enter a contract to conduct a study. Appropriates \$250,000 to the Department of Public Instruction to pay for contracts agreed to by the K-12 Education Coordination Council.	Senate Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
SB2263	Sen. Braunberger	Appropriates \$500,000 to the Department of Public Instruction for mastery framework training grants.	Senate Workforce Development	Hearing 9:30a, 1/30
SB2275	Sen. Luick	Appropriates \$25,000 to the Department of Public Instruction to pay annual stipends of up to \$2,500 per teacher as part of a pilot incentive program to teach a foreign language to students in grades K-3.	Senate Education	Hearing 9:30a, 1/28

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2279	Sen. Schaible	Reduces a school district's property tax limit from 70 mills to 55 mills. Increases the state share of the education finance formula by \$181 million.	Senate Finance and Taxation	Hearing 2p, 1/27
SB2295	Sen. Walen	Provides state aid annually to nonpublic schools at the rate of 75 percent of the education cost per student, and at the rate of 50 percent for students receiving home education.	Senate Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
SB2298	Sen. Mathern	Makes a renter who is at least 65 years old and permanently and totally disabled eligible for an annual refund of the rent cost that is attributable to property taxes. The renter must not have annual income of more than \$70,000 to be eligible.	Senate Finance and Taxation	Hearing 9:30a, 1/28
SB2300	Sen. Wobbema	Requires a student to store his or her electronic devices (e.g. mobile phones, laptops, or tablets) in a secure container during the school day. Requires the superintendent of public instruction to provide the secure containers to schools.	Senate Education	Hearing 10a, 1/29
SB2303	Sen. Wobbema	Creates an education savings account program for K-12 students.	Senate Education	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2305	Sen. Hogan	Establishes a family caregiver services program where the caregiver is paid. Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to request a Medicaid waiver to facilitate the program.	Senate Human Services	Hearing 10a, 1/27
SB2307	Sen. Boehm	Requires public libraries and school districts to develop policies to locate any “explicit sexual material” to an area in the library that is not accessible to minors.	Senate Judiciary	Hearing Not Scheduled
SB2308	Sen. Roers	Establishes a task force to review state boards for “inefficiencies and duplication of responsibilities” and suggest how to streamline government operations. Puts the commissioner of labor and human rights in charge of the project.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Not Scheduled
SB2319	Sen. Magrum	Requires the Legislature to meet each month on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, except for December, and on up to seven consecutive days each year.	Senate State and Local Government	Hearing Not Scheduled

Bill No.	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
SB2330	Sen. Boehm	Requires students in the North Dakota University System and the state K-12 education system to receive education about the prevention of human trafficking and exploitation.	Senate Education	Hearing Not Scheduled
SB2345	Sen. Marcellais	Advocates 4 percent annual pay increases for permanent state employees during 2025 and 2026.	Senate Appropriations	Hearing Not Scheduled
SB2350	Sen. Paulson	Exempts public employee performance and discipline records from public disclosure for three years or until termination of employment, whichever occurs first, unless the records are requested by law enforcement as part of a hiring process or are part of an internal investigation.	Senate Workforce Development	Hearing Not Scheduled

Questions or comments?
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