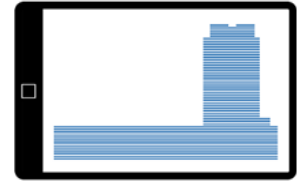




## The Capitol Tablet

ND Legislative News

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



**March 28, 2025**

As North Dakota's State Superintendent for more than a decade, I've had thousands of conversations with our teachers, students, and school leaders. Every year, these conversations become increasingly concerning. I continue to hear — with increasing frequency and urgency — that our teachers can't even teach the basics anymore because student mental health challenges have become so overwhelming in our classrooms.

Each legislative session, we see multiple bills requesting more funding for schools to hire additional counselors, social workers, and psychologists. These are good and necessary requests, but at some point, we must ask ourselves: Are we also willing to take the steps that would prevent the crisis from getting worse in the first place?

If we're not prepared to support a policy that will help curtail the mental health epidemic affecting our children, then we shouldn't continue to ask for more resources to deal with its consequences.

[SB2354](#) and [HB1160](#) give us that opportunity. By limiting access to personal electronic devices during school hours — with appropriate exceptions for medical and learning needs — we are giving our students the gift of attention, connection, and presence. We are removing the constant pull of comparison and distraction and replacing it with space to learn and grow.

We've seen this approach work in other states. [Arkansas passed the "Bell to Bell, No Cell" Act](#), and Virginia has moved forward under [Executive Order 33](#) to guide schools toward cell phone-free learning environments. These states are acting on the overwhelming research — like what is presented in [Jonathan Haidt's \*The Anxious Generation\*](#) — that the constant presence of smartphones and social media in our children's lives is rewiring their brains, disrupting healthy development, and fueling anxiety, depression, and loneliness.

This isn't just a policy issue. This is a moral and developmental one, and Gov. Kelly Armstrong and Lt. Gov. Michelle Strinden [have stepped forward to support](#) keeping personal electronic devices out of students' hands during the school day.

In my regular conversations with the students who are members of the [North Dakota State Superintendent's Student Cabinet](#), I've learned that even when schools have phone policies, individual teachers carry the burden of enforcement. Some do, and some don't. That inconsistency creates confusion for students and frustration for staff. Worse, it erodes the policy's effectiveness.

We often talk about lessening the classroom burdens that our teachers face. Here's our chance to act on that. Teachers are meant to teach, not to police cell phone use. By passing these bills, we relieve them of that task — and we do it in a way that is fair, consistent, and transparent.

This is about doing right by every student in every zip code. Don't all of our children deserve to know we're looking out for their mental health just as seriously as we protect their physical health? We have laws that prevent unsafe materials from entering classrooms. Why wouldn't we do the same for digital threats we now know are harming our children's emotional well-being?

Health is health — and it's time our laws reflected that truth.

Let's take this step forward — for our students, our educators, and the future of North Dakota.

**Department of Public Instruction**  
**2025 Legislature Bill Tracker**  
**Friday, March 28, 2025**  
**(Changes from Previous Week in Red)**

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">HB1012</a>	Appropriations	Budget for the Department of Health and Human Services.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Hearing 3/31
<a href="#">HB1013</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Committee Work Held, 3/19

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">HB1024</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Approved by Senate, 45-1, 3/20
<a href="#">HB1034</a>	<a href="#">Interim Juvenile Justice Committee</a>	Outlines procedure for “re-establishment” of a legal relationship between child and parent and establishes juvenile court as the original forum for these proceedings.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1048</a>	Supreme Court	Requires a mediator to prepare a written summary of any agreement and prohibits showing the summary to a judge without it being signed by both parties. Requires mediators to inform a judge whether a mediation agreement was reached.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1049</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Workforce Development</a>	Hearing Held, 2/20

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">HB1067</a>	Department of Health and Human Services	Relates to medical assistance benefits for children.	<a href="#">Senate Human Services</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/19

<a href="#">HB1081</a>	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)	<a href="#">Senate Finance and Taxation</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1095</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Kiefert</a>	Authorizes a school district and human service zone to form a “child safety liaison work group” to focus on child protective services, service coordination, and opportunities to improve relations between school districts and human service zones.	<a href="#">Senate Human Services</a>	Amended, Do Pass, 6-0, 3/27
<a href="#">HB1105</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Jonas</a>	Allows school districts to impose time limits on virtual instruction, restrict access to certain time periods, and establish student eligibility requirements for virtual instruction.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/21

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1109</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Human Services</a>	Conference Committee Appointed, 3/19
<a href="#">HB1122</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Nelson</a>	Relates to regulation of state purchasing contracts and cooperative purchasing by multiple state agencies.	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/21
<a href="#">HB1130</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Richter</a>	Gives school districts an option for changing how their state aid payments are calculated. Generally, the changes 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. The change benefits about 28 school districts.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/25
<a href="#">HB1132</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Holle</a>	Authorizes public and nonpublic schools to serve whole, 2 percent and flavored milk in bulk dispensers.	<a href="#">Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/21
<a href="#">HB1133</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Longmuir</a>	Requires county superintendents of schools to preserve records of their official acts and records acquired by the office that have “educational value or interest.”	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/14

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">HB1134</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Heilman</a>	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 with the intent of harassing the person.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/21
<a href="#">HB1138</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Pyle</a>	Lengthens the minimum amount of time that voters will have to consider issues in a bond election.	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Sent to Governor, 3/25
<a href="#">HB1143</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Pyle</a>	Appropriates \$5 million to the state Agriculture Department to establish a grant program for food distribution facilities.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Hearing 10a, 3/31
<a href="#">HB1144</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Tveit</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/24
<a href="#">HB1146</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Lefor</a>	Regulates state government contributions to the defined benefit pension plan for state employees.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Hearing Held, 3/20

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1160</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Jonas</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/26

<b>Bill No.</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1164</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Schrieber-Beck</a>	Changes definition of “student with a disability” as it relates to being deaf or hard of hearing.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/21
<a href="#">HB1168</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Louser</a>	Reduces school district property tax contribution to state school aid payments from 60 mills to 50 mills. Limits local governments, except for school districts, to 3 percent increases in property taxes each year.	<a href="#">Senate Finance and Taxation</a>	Hearing Held, 3/11
<a href="#">HB1170</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Motschenbacher</a>	Provides 40 hours of unpaid leave for newly hired state employees, which may be used in their first year of employment.	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Approved by Senate, 36-10, 3/18
<a href="#">HB1176</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Nathe</a>	Authorizes the Legacy Fund to provide enough earnings to pay for a residential property tax credit of up to <b>\$1,250</b> annually per homeowner. <b>Limits tax credit to 75 percent of what a homeowner owes on a primary residence.</b> Expands eligibility for the homestead property tax credit and a state refund program for renters.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	<b>Hearing Held, 3/24</b>
<a href="#">HB1178</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Novak</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	<b>Signed by Governor, 3/14</b>



<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1181</a>	<a href="#">Rep. S. Olson</a>	Requires any entity that receives state money to refer to individuals by their gender/sex. The policy applies to all policies, records, forms, rules, standards, procedures, guides, materials, instruction, training, correspondence, advertising, or marketing used by a North Dakota public school or University System institution, state agency or office, unless otherwise required by federal law.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/24
<a href="#">HB1188</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Lefor</a>	Regulates fees charged to school districts based on their students' use of programs at area career and technology centers.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1199</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Holle</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Hearing Held, 3/13

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1214</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Richter</a>	Establishes new method for paying state transportation aid to school districts, based on weighted student units. The transportation payment would rise along with increases in per-student state aid payments.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Committee Work Held, 3/26
<a href="#">HB1220</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Motschenbacher</a>	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.”	<a href="#">Senate Workforce Development</a>	Hearing Held, 3/21
<a href="#">HB1222</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Novak</a>	Requires school boards to adopt a policy that offers every student the opportunity to say the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each school day.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/19
<a href="#">HB1223</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Jonas</a>	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 disciplinary history.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/5
<a href="#">HB1238</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Ista</a>	Says an instructor who has been licensed to teach in North Dakota for 25 years must be granted a lifetime license. This time period is shortened from 30 years.	<a href="#">Senate Workforce Development</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/25

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1247</a>	<a href="#">Rep. D. Johnston</a>	A school district must provide for “proper separation” and develop a safety plan in cases where a student has sexually assaulted another student and they are attending the same school.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/5
<a href="#">HB1261</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Schreiber-Beck</a>	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)	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/14
<a href="#">HB1279</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Novak</a>	Extends a state tax break for coal-fueled power plants to July 1, 2036.	<a href="#">Senate Finance and Taxation</a>	Hearing Held, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1294</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Novak</a>	Raises the fine for illegally overtaking or passing a school bus from \$100 to \$250.	<a href="#">Senate Transportation</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/25
<a href="#">HB1300</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Koppelman</a>	Affects how service time in the Legislature is calculated.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Approved by Senate, 40-6, 3/28
<a href="#">HB1308</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Satrom</a>	Expands and strengthens the duties of the state human trafficking commission. Provides legal immunity for teachers, attorneys and other “regulated professions” who report suspected cases of human trafficking in good faith.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Hearing Held, 3/14

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1178</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Novak</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/14
<a href="#">HB1328</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Heinert</a>	Requires a school to exhaust all school discipline policies before referring a child to juvenile court.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/19
<a href="#">HB1329</a>	<a href="#">Rep. O'Brien</a>	Requests an interim legislative study of whether to establish a government spending database, which would include a review of training services needed for school board members, superintendents, principals, and business managers.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/19
<a href="#">HB1338</a>	<a href="#">Rep. M. Ruby</a>	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."	<a href="#">Senate Human Services</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/19

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">HB1351</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Satrom</a>	Gives an individual who is unwillingly depicted in a “sexually expressive” image the right to sue anyone involved in its production or distribution. Authorizes redaction of court documents to maintain the privacy of individuals who sue over such images.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Amended, Do Pass, 7-0, 3/27
<a href="#">HB1355</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Steiner</a>	Requires agencies to prepare a short summary of proposed administrative rule changes for publication in the newspaper. A QR code may also be included.	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Amended, Do Pass, 6-0, 3/28
<a href="#">HB1357</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Morton</a>	Requires the state school superintendent to obtain a data sharing agreement with a school district as a condition of state approval.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/14
<a href="#">HB1363</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Meier</a>	Requires the Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a customizable cardiac emergency response plan for public and nonpublic schools.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1368</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Koppelman</a>	Allows the Legislature’s Administrative Rules Committee to void proposed administrative rules if there is “an absence of necessity” or “an absence of reasonableness.”	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Hearing Held, 3/27

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">HB1369</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Heinert</a>	Requires the superintendent of public instruction to approve placements of students with disabilities in private or public boarding facilities. Raises bidding threshold for construction of public improvements to \$250,000. Transfers \$75 million from foundation aid stabilization fund to a school construction loan fund.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Hearing Not Scheduled
<a href="#">HB1381</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Brandenburg</a>	Changes the property tax treatment of several types of property within the state education finance formula.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Do Not Pass, 4-2, 3/27
<a href="#">HB1387</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Heinert</a>	Allows school boards to cancel classes or require that students be segregated from voters during regular school hours if the school is used as a polling place during national, state or local election days.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/5
<a href="#">HB1404</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Schreiber-Beck</a>	Replaces the ACT with the NDA+ assessment when determining whether a student qualifies for a North Dakota Scholarship.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/12
<a href="#">HB1408</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Bahl</a>	Requires annual sessions of the Legislature, with sessions scheduled within a period of 70 calendar days each year.	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Hearing Held, 3/28

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1468</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Bosch</a>	Appropriates \$16 million to the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a behavioral health facility in west-central North Dakota.	<a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a>	Hearing Held, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1476</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Novak</a>	Requires the Department of Public Instruction to develop and maintain a system for tracking assessments of school buildings. It would track the original construction year, facility additions, square footage, and recommended maintenance.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/18
<a href="#">HB1482</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Wagner</a>	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.	<a href="#">Senate Finance and Taxation</a>	Hearing Held, 3/10
<a href="#">HB1497</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Maki</a>	Allows children to enroll in an education program for 4-year-olds if he or she meets certain criteria, and the child turns 4 by Dec. 1 of the year he or she enrolls. Under current law, the child must turn 4 by August of the year he or she enrolls.	<a href="#">Senate Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/26

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#"><u>HB1510</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Rep. Schreiber-Beck</u></a>	Requires the Bank of North Dakota and the Teachers' Fund for Retirement 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.	<a href="#"><u>Senate Education</u></a>	Hearing Held, 3/19
<a href="#"><u>HB1527</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Rep. Maki</u></a>	Requires schools to include instruction on antisemitism and the Holocaust in the required coursework on world history.	<a href="#"><u>Senate Education</u></a>	Hearing Held, 3/24
<a href="#"><u>HB1530</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Rep. Schneider</u></a>	Requests an interim legislative study about the shortage of special education teachers and the "circumstances and collective needs of special education."	<a href="#"><u>Senate Education</u></a>	Approved by Senate, 46-1, 3/26
<a href="#"><u>HB1540</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Rep. Koppelman</u></a>	Authorizes education savings accounts to pay for student education expenses. Provides a payment for savings accounts equal to 50 percent of the average state per-student aid payment to public schools.	<a href="#"><u>Senate Education</u></a>	Hearing Held. 3/17
<a href="#"><u>HB1547</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Rep. Richter</u></a>	Requires an interim legislative study of special education funding. Specifies the membership of the funding study committee.	<a href="#"><u>Senate Education</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/21



<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1562</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Osowski</a>	Requires public and nonpublic school teachers, administrators, librarians and counselors to complete a mandated reporter training program for suspected child abuse or neglect. Orders the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a training program.	<a href="#">Senate Human Services</a>	Amended, Do Pass, 6-0, 3/27
<a href="#">HB1563</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Davis</a>	Requests an interim legislative study of the taxation of tribal land owned by enrolled tribal members.	<a href="#">Senate Finance and Taxation</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/17
<a href="#">HB1572</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Hagert</a>	Requires the Tax Department and local tax officials to gather data on tax-exempt property, including its classification, county location, and true and full value, and report the information to Legislative Management. Imposes a \$15 million limit on any general obligation bond issue by a municipal park district.	<a href="#">Senate Finance and Taxation</a>	Hearing Held, 3/18

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HB1575</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Weisz</a>	Creates a Legacy Property Tax Relief Fund and provides property tax buydowns, based on income, for a person's primary residence. Provides reductions in taxable property values for residential, commercial and agricultural property. Provides annual subsidies for renters of up to \$600, depending on income.	<a href="#">Senate Finance and Taxation</a>	Hearing Held, 3/11
<a href="#">HB1580</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Vetter</a>	Requests an interim study of the compensation system for classified state employees, including comparisons to private sector compensation and employee retention and equity bonuses.	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Hearing Held, 3/14
<a href="#">HB1588</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Heinert</a>	Removes the state ban on firearms possession in a "publicly owned or operated building." Allows political subdivisions to ban guns in public areas of their buildings. Allows the governor and retired state and federal judges to a list of individuals allowed to carry firearms in a public gathering.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Hearing 2:30p, 3/31
<a href="#">HB1599</a>	<a href="#">Rep. O'Brien</a>	Removes need for a medical provider to verify the "severe, extreme or life-threatening nature" of a state employee's medical condition for the employee to qualify for a leave-sharing program.	<a href="#">Senate State and Local Government</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/26

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">HCR3028</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Vetter</a>	Requests a legislative study of service and re-entry programs provided to victims of human trafficking.	<a href="#">Senate Judiciary</a>	Hearing Not Scheduled
<a href="#">HCR3035</a>	<a href="#">Rep. Murphy</a>	Amends the North Dakota Constitution to allow the spending of \$3 billion for school construction from state trust funds, including the Common Schools Trust Fund, over 10 years.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Defeated by House, 15-77, 3/24
<a href="#">SB2003</a>	Appropriations	Budget for the North Dakota University System.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Hearing Held, 3/20
<a href="#">SB2019</a>	Appropriations	Budget for the Department of Career and Technical Education.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Hearing Held, 3/21
<a href="#">SB2029</a>	<a href="#">Interim Government Finance</a>	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.	<a href="#">House Human Services</a>	Hearing Held, 3/18
<a href="#">SB2036</a>	<a href="#">Interim Juvenile Justice</a>	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.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Hearing Not Scheduled

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">SB2037</a>	<a href="#">Interim Juvenile Justice</a>	Changes how certain penalties may be imposed for minors for delinquent conduct, including sex offender registration, possession of tobacco, prohibition from possessing firearms, and suspension of driving privileges.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Hearing Not Scheduled
<a href="#">SB2043</a>	Education Standards and Practices Board	Treats teacher license suspension and revocation proceedings alike when a teacher is convicted of sexual offenses or crimes against a child, regardless of whether the charges are brought in state or federal court.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/14
<a href="#">SB2048</a>	Information Technology Department	Provides more flexibility in developing information technology plans. Eliminates requirements to report specific dates for plan changes. Requires the state information technology plan be developed with emphasis on agency strategic goals, business objectives, and alignment with statewide information technology initiatives.	<a href="#">House Government and Veterans Affairs</a>	Sent to Governor, 3/27
<a href="#">SB2049</a>	Information Technology Department	Changes the makeup of the “executive steering committee” for a major information technology project and changes its name to “oversight committee.” Expands criteria for defining a major project.	<a href="#">House Government and Veterans Affairs</a>	Approved by House, 92-0, 3/26

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#"><u>SB2055</u></a>	ND Supreme Court	Corrects a reference in state law relating to the release of juvenile records.	<a href="#"><u>House Judiciary</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/17
<a href="#"><u>SB2061</u></a>	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.	<a href="#"><u>House Transportation</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/17
<a href="#"><u>SB2072</u></a>	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.	<a href="#"><u>House Government and Veterans Affairs</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/18
<a href="#"><u>SB2084</u></a>	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. Sets mileage reimbursement rates to equal the federal GSA rates. Raises lodging rates for legislators during sessions.	<a href="#"><u>House Appropriations</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/252105

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">SB2096</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Mathern</a>	Provides \$16 million to the Department of Health and Human Services for grants to improve regional acute psychiatric treatment services, behavioral health services, and residential supportive housing.	<a href="#">House Human Services</a>	Defeated by House, 14-78, 3/28
<a href="#">SB2104</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Beard</a>	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." Gives the superintendent authority to investigate alleged examples of noncompliance and withhold state school aid from repeat offenders.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/12
<a href="#">SB2105</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Beard</a>	Restricts when surveys may be administered to K-12 students in schools and career and technical education centers to obtain information from them.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Defeated by House, 40-44, 3/21. Reconsideration failed, 46-45, 3/24 (Need minimum of 48 votes to be approved)
<a href="#">SB2113</a>	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, and changes the council's membership.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Amended, Do Pass, 23-0, 3/28

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#"><u>SB2126</u></a>	Commission on Uniform State Laws	Adopts the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act.	<a href="#"><u>House Judiciary</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/18
<a href="#"><u>SB2134</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Roers</u></a>	Allows the state treasurer and superintendent of public instruction to name designees from their respective agencies to the board of directors of the Teachers' Fund for Retirement.	<a href="#"><u>House Political Subdivisions</u></a>	Sent to Governor, 3/26
<a href="#"><u>SB2146</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Roers</u></a>	Adopts the occupational therapy licensure compact.	<a href="#"><u>House Industry, Business and Labor</u></a>	Approved by House, 90-0, 3/27
<a href="#"><u>SB2147</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Sickler</u></a>	Provides supplemental college student financial assistance grants. <b>Appropriates \$2 million for the grants.</b> Expands eligibility for grants to students who live within 50 miles of the North Dakota border and work in a "high demand or emerging occupation."	<a href="#"><u>House Appropriations</u></a>	Amended, Do Pass, 15-8, 3/28
<a href="#"><u>SB2149</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Schaible</u></a>	Provides \$20 million in low-interest school construction loans for projects on North Dakota's U.S. Air Force bases.	<a href="#"><u>House Education</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/24

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">SB2158</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Schaible</a>	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.	<a href="#">House Political Subdivisions</a>	Do Not Pass, 7-2, 3/28
<a href="#">SB2160</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Davison</a>	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.	<a href="#">House Industry, Business and Labor</a>	Hearing Held, 3/18
<a href="#">SB2169</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Burckhard</a>	Requires a physical therapist to obtain informed consent from a patient or the patient's representative about an overall plan of care.	<a href="#">House Political Subdivisions</a>	Approved by House, 85-4, 3/25
<a href="#">SB2176</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Axtman</a>	Restructures membership of the state Children's Cabinet and directs the governor's office to provide staff support. Provides authority for working groups to develop policies affecting children and families. Orders annual reports to the Legislature.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Approved by House, 75-9, 3/21



<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#"><u>SB2180</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Paulson</u></a>	Requires meetings of public entities to set aside time at some meetings for public comment. Says political subdivisions may establish public comment rules for regular meetings.	<a href="#"><u>House Political Subdivisions</u></a>	Amended, Do Pass, 9-1, 3/28
<a href="#"><u>SB2196</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Roers</u></a>	Authorizes students to use a self-administered epinephrine nasal spray to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction.	<a href="#"><u>House Human Services</u></a>	Sent to Governor, 3/26
<a href="#"><u>SB2198</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Boschee</u></a>	Affects leave pay for state or local government employees who are members of the National Guard or the armed forces reserve.	<a href="#"><u>House Political Subdivisions</u></a>	Amended, Do Pass, 12-0, 3/21
<a href="#"><u>SB2201</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen Weber</u></a>	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.	<a href="#"><u>Senate Appropriations</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 2/18

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">SB2213</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Schaible</a>	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. <b>Appropriates \$1.5 million</b> to the Department of Public Instruction to support <b>pilot projects, student screening</b> and improved math instruction in grades kindergarten through eight.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	<b>Hearing Not Scheduled</b>
<a href="#">SB2234</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Davison</a>	Appropriates <b>\$1 million</b> to the Department of Public Instruction for competitive Choice Ready grants to school districts to assist high school students.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Amended, Do Pass, 13-1, 3/19
<a href="#">SB2239</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Boschee</a>	Appropriates \$1.1 million to the Department of Labor and Human Rights to administer an apprenticeship grant program. Provides up to \$3,000 within three years for apprenticeship grant beneficiaries.	<a href="#">House Industry, Business and Labor</a>	Hearing Held, 3/18

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">SB2241</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Axtman</a>	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.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/11
<a href="#">SB2244</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Paulson</a>	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 encourage parent participation. Requires a parent's written consent before the parent's child receives instruction about gender stereotypes, gender identity, sexual orientation or sexual relationships.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Amended, Do Not Pass, 8-6, 3/26
<a href="#">SB2251</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Cleary</a>	Affects what the state auditor may charge to perform an audit. Regulates public records requests for information that the auditor obtains during an audit.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Hearing Not Scheduled
<a href="#">SB2258</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Beard</a>	Requires a state agency to specify a law or rule that is being enforced against an individual if the person requests the information.	<a href="#">House Government and Veterans Affairs</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/24

Bill	Sponsor(s)	Description	Committee	Status
<a href="#">SB2259</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Lee</a>	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.	<a href="#">House Political Subdivisions</a>	Sent to Governor, 3/26
<a href="#">SB2262</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Braunberger</a>	Authorizes the K-12 Education Coordination Council to agree to a contract to conduct a study.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Approved by House, 84-8, 3/27
<a href="#">SB2275</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Luick</a>	Appropriates \$49,500 to the Department of Public Instruction to pay grants to schools that teach foreign languages to students in grades K-3. Grants may not exceed \$2,500 per teacher and may be used for stipends, program costs or materials.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Signed by Governor, 3/18
<a href="#">SB2305</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Hogan</a>	Extends a family caregiver services pilot project where the caregiver is paid. Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to request a Medicaid waiver to facilitate the program. Appropriates \$7.3 million for the program.	<a href="#">House Appropriations</a>	Hearing Not Scheduled

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#"><u>SB2307</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Boehm</u></a>	Requires public libraries and school districts to develop policies to relocate any “explicit sexual material” to an area in the library that is not accessible to minors.	<a href="#"><u>House Appropriations</u></a>	Committee Work Held, 3/18
<a href="#"><u>SB2308</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Roers</u></a>	Establishes a task force under the governor’s office to review state boards and commissions. Orders report to Legislative Management by Oct. 1, 2026.	<a href="#"><u>House Government and Veterans Affairs</u></a>	Approved by House, 85-7, 3/28
<a href="#"><u>SB2330</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Boehm</u></a>	Requires students in grades 4-12 in North Dakota public schools and tribal schools to receive education about the prevention of human trafficking and exploitation. Appropriates \$48,000 to the superintendent of public instruction to implement human trafficking and exploitation awareness and education.	<a href="#"><u>House Education</u></a>	Approved by House, 90-1, 3/28
<a href="#"><u>SB2341</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Axtman</u></a>	Adopts the interstate compact for school psychologists.	<a href="#"><u>House Industry, Business and Labor</u></a>	Hearing Held, 3/24
<a href="#"><u>SB2351</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Beard</u></a>	Requires certified-mail notification for property owners affected by a school district annexation petition. They would need to get at least 21 days’ notice.	<a href="#"><u>House Education</u></a>	Amended, Do Pass, 13-0, 3/27

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#"><u>SB2353</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Davison</u></a>	Authorizes the superintendent of public instruction to contract with regional education associations for services. Allows REAs to provide services to school districts that are not members of the association.	<a href="#"><u>House Education</u></a>	Sent to Governor, 3/26
<a href="#"><u>SB2354</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Axtman</u></a>	Requires school districts to adopt policies to govern use of personal cellphones, tablets and laptops at school by Aug. 1, 2026. Students, parents and educators must be consulted in developing the policy, which must be published on the district's website and reviewed annually.	<a href="#"><u>House Education</u></a>	Hearing Held, 3/26
<a href="#"><u>SB2362</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Schaible</u></a>	Requires the superintendent of public instruction to provide accreditation options for schools and outlines a process for selecting them.	<a href="#"><u>House Education</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/25
<a href="#"><u>SB2367</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sen. Myrdal</u></a>	Requires the county director of tax equalization to develop "modifiers," such as trees, rocks, streams, and roads, for adjusting the assessments of agricultural property.	<a href="#"><u>House Finance and Taxation</u></a>	Signed by Governor, 3/18

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#">SB2400</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Axtman</a>	Requires the superintendent of public instruction to oversee an education savings account program. Specifies money amounts that are deposited in student education savings accounts, depending on family incomes. Sets out standards for schools if they are to accept ESA money.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Hearing Held, 3/18
<a href="#">SCR4019</a>	<a href="#">Sen. Boschee</a>	Requests a legislative study of reading and mathematics proficiency rates among students with disabilities.	<a href="#">House Education</a>	Approved by House, Voice Vote, 3/21

**Questions or comments?**

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