

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

WORKFORCE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Conference Room 335, National Energy Center of Excellence, Bismarck State College
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Approval of the minutes of the August 1, 2008, meeting
Welcome and comments by committee chairman

REPORTS

9:10 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Paul T. Govig, Director, Department of Commerce Division of Community Services, of the Department of Commerce report on the implementation and successes and failures of the Beginning Again North Dakota pilot program and whether the program should be continued or continued and expanded

Comments by interested persons

Committee questions and discussion

9:30 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Shane C. Goettle, Commissioner, Department of Commerce, on the process used and the factors considered by the commissioner in identifying target industries on which economic development efforts are focused and the special focus target industry

Comments by interested persons

Committee questions and discussion

WORKFORCE SYSTEM STUDY

9:50 a.m. Committee discussion regarding the results of the workforce system study, including committee consideration of the following bill drafts:

- Expansion of the renaissance zone law to include tax incentives for repair or remodeling of utility infrastructure
- Modification of the renaissance zone law to remove the distance requirement from the exception to the continuous boundary requirement and to allow for transfers of historic preservation and renovation tax credits
- Provide for a pilot program to incentivize state agencies to retain retirement age employees
- Provide for a Department of Commerce program for marketing higher education opportunities to out-of-state students
- Provide for funding for the Department of Commerce's Operation Intern program
- Provide for a higher education tuition grant program for qualified North Dakota high school graduates
- Provide a five-year income tax exemption for recent graduates of institutions of higher education
- Provide an income tax incentive for automation
- Provide an income tax child credit

- Concurrent resolution for the Legislative Council to study the state's workforce system, the feasibility and desirability of enacting legislation to address the issues identified in the 2007-08 interim's Workforce Committee's consultant's report, and the implementation of workforce initiatives enacted by the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly
- Concurrent resolution urging Congress to address immigration reform to assist states in addressing workforce shortages

Comments by interested persons

Committee directives

12:00 noon Luncheon break

1:00 p.m. Continuation of committee discussion

Comments by interested persons

Committee directives

2:00 p.m. Adjourn

Committee Members

Senators Tony Grindberg (Chairman), Ray Holmberg, Dave Nething, Tom Seymour
Representatives Donald L. Clark, Stacey Dahl, Mary Ekstrom, Glen Froseth, Eliot Glassheim, Pam Gulletson, Nancy Johnson, George J. Keiser, Lisa Meier, Lee Myxter, Dan J. Ruby, Clark Williams, Steve Zaiser