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## JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 19, 2024  
Harvest Room, State Capitol  
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:00 a.m. Call to order  
Roll call  
Consideration of the [minutes of the November 9, 2023, meeting](#)

### JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CODE STUDY

9:05 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Karen Kringle, Director of Juvenile Court, Administrative Unit Two, regarding background information on the new process for making delinquency referrals to juvenile court for an infraction or misdemeanor offense on school property under North Dakota Century Code Section 27-20.4-05.1

9:20 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Michael Wilber, Associate Principal, Grand Forks Central High School, and Mr. Jay Hepperle, Associate Principal, Red River High School, regarding making a delinquency referral to juvenile court for an infraction or misdemeanor offense on school property

9:35 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Russ Riehl, Principal, Simle Middle School, regarding making a delinquency referral to juvenile court for an infraction or misdemeanor offense on school property

9:55 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Luke Schaefer, Director, Central Regional Education Association, regarding the implementation of the statutory process for making a delinquency referral to juvenile court for an infraction or misdemeanor offense on school property

### RE-ENTRY OUTCOMES STUDY

10:15 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Steven Hall, Director of Transitional Planning Services, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, regarding a status update on the working group's progress on improving re-entry outcomes for incarcerated adults and youth

10:35 a.m. [Presentation](#) by the Legislative Council staff regarding efforts, strategies, and programs implemented in other states to reduce recidivism

### REPORTS

10:50 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Mary Soucie, State Librarian, of an aggregate report on the implementation of collection development and relocation of materials policies to ensure explicit sexual material is not maintained in the public library's children's collection inventory

11:10 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Lindsey Burkhardt, Director, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force, and Dr. Christopher Johnson, PhD, Chairman, North Dakota Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children, and Chief Executive Officer, Rape and Abuse Crisis Center, of an annual report on the Task Force's findings and recommendations

11:30 a.m. Committee discussion

## CHILD WELFARE STUDY

- 11:40 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Darin Meschke, State Registrar, Director, Vital Records, regarding the process established by Senate Bill No. 2379 (2023) to request birth certificates on behalf of homeless youth
- 11:50 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Mark Heinert, Assistant Executive Director, Youthworks, regarding background information and issues with the availability of vital statistics information for youth estranged from their parents
- 12:10 p.m. Recess
- 1:00 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Cory Pedersen, Director, Children and Family Services, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding an overview of the laws and practices of the state's adoption system
- 1:30 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Natalece Washington, Policy Counsel, National Association of Counsel for Children, and Ms. Jey Rajaraman, Associate Director, Legal Representation Projects, American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law, regarding using Title IV-E funding to support high-quality legal representation and promote child and family wellbeing
- 2:15 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Heather Traynor, Court Improvement Program Coordinator, Supreme Court, and [Mr. Sheldon Spotted Elk](#), JD, Senior Director, Judicial National Engagement, Casey Family Programs, regarding Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) courts and a review of their impact for Indian families
- 3:00 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Charionna Clarke, Fargo, regarding her experience with the state's foster care system
- 3:10 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Tim Gienger, Senior Director of Residential Partnerships, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, regarding common overarching or reoccurring issues impacting today's youth
- 3:30 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Kati Mikulski, Executive Director, The Lighthouse, regarding common overarching or reoccurring issues impacting today's youth
- 3:50 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Lorraine Davis, Chief Executive Officer, Native American Development Center, regarding common overarching or reoccurring issues impacting today's youth
- 4:10 p.m. Comments by interested persons and committee discussion
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn

**A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.**

### Committee Members

Representatives: Michelle Strinden (Chairman), Karen A. Anderson, Claire Cory, Jayme Davis, Karla Rose Hanson, Zachary Ista, Lawrence R. Klemin, Shannon Roers Jones, Lori VanWinkle

Senators: David A. Clemens, Kathy Hogan, Diane Larson, Judy Lee

Staff Contact: Christopher S. Joseph, Assistant Legal Division Director