

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

WELFARE REFORM COMMITTEE

Thursday and Friday, September 4-5, 1997
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Thursday, September 4, 1997

- 9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of minutes of the June 19, 1997, meeting
- 9:05 a.m. Comments by Ms. Carol Olson, Executive Director, Department of Human Services, regarding the committee's studies and the state's implementation of welfare reform in North Dakota

WELFARE REFORM STUDY

- 9:45 a.m. Presentation by representatives of the Department of Human Services regarding the committee's monitoring of welfare reform implementation efforts and the study of the implementation of the temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program including:
1. A status report on the state's implementation of the TANF program, the United States Department of Health and Human Services approval of the state's TANF plan, and recent congressional changes affecting welfare reform
 2. Information regarding the TANF program, including:
 - a. Relevant current statistics, base numbers, and projections, including caseloads and other informational and relevant indices including unemployment rates
 - b. The availability of client employment opportunities
 - c. The projected rate of TANF expenditures for the 1997-99 biennium and a comparison of actual and projected expenditures to date
 - d. The involvement of the private sector in welfare reform
 - e. The availability and affordability of child care in North Dakota
 3. A status report on the availability of federal funding for a consultant and State Auditor's performance audit of the state's implementation of welfare reform

- 12:00 noon Luncheon recess
- 1:00 p.m. Presentation by representatives of the Department of Human Services regarding services provided and departmental funding requests of the federal government relating to the 1997 flood and other natural disasters
- 2:00 p.m. Comments by representatives of the Greater North Dakota Association regarding the participation of the private sector in welfare reform efforts, including employment opportunities for welfare recipients
- 2:30 p.m. Comments by other interested persons, including day care providers, regarding the committee's study of welfare reform
- 4:00 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives regarding the monitoring of welfare reform
- 5:00 p.m. Recess

Friday, September 5, 1997

STUDY OF INDIAN TRIBAL WELFARE REFORM ISSUES

- 9:00 a.m. Presentation by representatives of the Department of Human Services regarding the impact of tribal members on the state's TANF block grant, including the number of TANF recipients on reservations, the potential impact on the state in meeting work participation requirements, and information regarding other states' efforts in providing state matching funding for tribal welfare programs
- 10:00 a.m. Comments by representatives of the Indian Affairs Commission and tribal representatives regarding the committee's study and the opportunity for Indian tribes to operate their own TANF programs
- 12:00 noon Luncheon recess
- 1:00 p.m. Comments by other interested persons regarding Indian tribal welfare programs
- 1:45 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives regarding the study of welfare reform issues relating to the Indian tribes
- 2:00 p.m. Adjourn

Committee Members

Senators Jim Yockim (Chairman), Judy L. DeMers, Tom Fischer, Judy Lee, Donna L. Nalewaja, Bob Stenehjem, Russell T. Thane
 Representatives LeRoy G. Bernstein, Linda Christenson, Jack Dalrymple, Connie Johnsen, Ralph L. Kilzer, Carol A. Niemeier, Clara Sue Price, Robin Weisz