

**Ethics Commission
Budget No. 195
House Bill No. 1521**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2019-21 legislative appropriation	2.00	\$517,155	\$0	\$517,155
2017-19 legislative appropriation	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
2019-21 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2017-19 appropriation	2.00	\$517,155	\$0	\$517,155

Item Description

Creation of Ethics Commission - House Bill No. 1521 (2019) created Chapter 54-66 for the purpose of establishing the North Dakota Ethics Commission as required by Article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota. The new chapter provides for the commission member terms, compensation, and duties. The five members of the commission are to be appointed unanimously by the Governor, Majority Leader of the Senate, and Minority Leader of the Senate. The members may not hold public office or be lobbyists, candidates for public office, or political party officials.

Status/Result

In August 2019 the five Ethics Commission members were appointed by unanimous consent of the Governor, Majority Leader of the Senate, and Minority Leader of the Senate. The commission first met in October 2019 and has met several times since then. In December 2019 the commission selected an executive director who began work on January 2, 2020. The commission is developing guidelines for the complaint process and establishing rules for the investigation of complaints.