

## STUDY DIRECTIVES UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT FOR THE 2019-20 INTERIM

The following table identifies the bills and resolutions prioritized by the Legislative Management for study during the 2019-20 interim under the authority of North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-02 (15 required studies and 50 optional studies):

Yes	No	Bill or Resolution No.	Subject Matter
		1015 § 9	<b>(Required)</b> Shall conduct a comprehensive study of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The study must include a review, with input from a consultant engaged by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, of gender-responsive correctional and rehabilitation facility and service needs. The review must include: the preferable location of facilities; the service needs of individuals sentenced to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and the impact on families of individuals sentenced to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The study must include an assessment of facilities at the Missouri River Correctional Center, the James River Correctional Center, and the State Hospital, with input from a consultant engaged by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The assessment must: include the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation master plan, staffing plan, comprehensive service delivery strategy, and cost estimates; be based on providing comprehensive services to those committed to the care, custody, and control of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; include options for community-based and family-involved environments; and consider the opportunity for vocational and workforce development. The study must include a review of vocational opportunities, educational opportunities, workforce development, and medical and behavioral health treatment for those committed to the care, custody, and control of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. (Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Review Committee)
		1021 § 6	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study access to public and private lands for hunting, trapping, fishing, and related issues, including trespass violations and penalties, and provide recommendations regarding a land access database with the capability of electronic posting. At the direction of the Legislative Management, before August 1, 2020, the Information Technology Department and Game and Fish Department shall establish a trial electronic posting and hunter access information system in up to three counties. The Information Technology Department and Game and Fish Department may contract with a third party to assist with the electronic posting and hunter access information system development and operation. (The committee is to include citizen members)
		1021 § 7	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study the Information Technology Department's transition to the run-grow-transform model and the information technology unification initiative. The study must include a review of changes in fees, services, operations, processes, and systems.
		1021 § 10	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study consolidated emergency and interoperable public safety communications system governance and funding options.
		1029 § 1	<b>(Required)</b> Review the higher education funding formula, including only the appropriateness of certain credit-hour weighting factors and the potential or need for additional weighting factors. (Higher Education Funding Formula Review Committee - this committee includes other state employees and officers)
		1106 § 3	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study ways the state may be able to positively affect the current trend of health insurance premium rates increasing, with a focus on the high-risk and subsidized markets. The study must be solution based to reduce costs and may include consideration of whether a strict managed care model might be effective.

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		1374 § 3	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study the feasibility and desirability of the Public Employees Retirement System entering a separate contract for prescription drug coverage under the uniform group insurance program. The Legislative Management may contract with a private third party to assist in conducting the study and identifying pros and cons relating to a carve out for prescription drug coverage under the uniform group insurance program.
		1485 § 1	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study protections, enforcement, and remedies regarding the disclosure of consumers' personal data. The study must include a review of privacy laws of other states and applicable federal law.
		2015 § 32	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study the potential uses of legacy fund earnings, including the use of earnings to provide tax relief, provide for reinvestment of legacy fund earnings, fund research and technological advancements, promote economic growth and diversification, and promote workforce development and career and technical education. The committee may consider public input on the use of legacy fund earnings and review the operation of other funds, such as Norway's sovereign wealth fund. (Legacy Fund Earnings Committee)
		2019 § 14	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study the feasibility and desirability of reducing Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center fees and consider alternatives to address the sustainability of the Parks and Recreation Department's operations of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.
		2019 § 15	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study the public access and use of real property located between the Missouri River and the Missouri River Correctional Center, owned by the State of North Dakota, under the control of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and the impact of transferring the property to the Parks and Recreation Department.
		2130 § 1	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study, in coordination with the State Auditor, the provisions of the North Dakota Century Code relating to state agency fees. The study must include a review of the dates state agency fee provisions were created and modified, the revenue generated by the fee as compared to the expenditures related to the purpose or purposes for which the fee is imposed, and the fund or funds in which fee revenue is deposited and from which fee revenue is expended; consideration of whether the amounts of fees should be changed and whether the imposition of a fee is appropriate or if other government revenues should be used to fund the provision of services.
		2148 § 1	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study the implementation and requirements of Article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota concerning the transparency of funding sources, lobbyists, conflicts of interest, and related matters, the responsibilities of the Legislative Assembly and the Ethics Commission, and potential issues under the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of North Dakota. The members of the Ethics Commission must be invited to participate on the study committee as nonvoting members. The study must include a review of existing laws and laws enacted to implement Article XIV and consideration of whether the civil and criminal sanctions for violations of the constitutional provisions and the statutes are appropriate; whether legislative action regarding Article XIV is necessary or desirable; and an effective means to educate public officials, lobbyists, and the public on the requirements of Article XIV and other laws regarding government ethics.
		2265 § 23	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study the K-12 education funding formula, including the components, adjustments, and weighting factors of the formula. Members appointed to the committee must have a secure knowledge of the current K-12 funding formula. (Education Funding Formula Review Committee)

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		2312 § 4	<b>(Required)</b> Shall study tribal taxation issues, including the tax collection agreements that exist between the tribes and the state, the interaction between tribal sovereignty and state law, consideration of how statutory changes may affect provisions in existing agreements, the amount and manner of revenue sharing under the agreements, the costs and benefits to the state and the tribes if tax compacts are implemented, implementation models used in other states for tax compacts, best practices for negotiating and ratifying tax compacts, the procedure for withdrawal from an agreement and how to handle disputed funds; and methods for sourcing revenue generated from wells located inside or outside of the external boundaries of a reservation in this state when a horizontal lateral enters a spacing unit that is located both inside and outside of the external boundaries of a reservation in this state. The committee may study tribal-state issues, including government-to-government relations, human services, education, corrections, and issues related to the promotion of economic development. (Tribal Taxation Issues Committee)
		1003 § 34	Consider studying North Dakota University System competitive research programs, including the established program to stimulate competitive research.
		1018 § 14	Consider studying the future administration and regulation of the unmanned aircraft systems industry in North Dakota, including beyond visual line of sight unmanned aircraft system. The study must include a determination of the appropriate state agency or private entity to be assigned responsibility of regulating unmanned aircraft system programs, including licensing, registration, appropriate fees, and other responsibilities. The study may include a review of the audited financial statements associated with the beyond visual line of sight unmanned aircraft system of an entity receiving funding from the appropriation for the beyond visual line of sight unmanned aircraft system program in Section 9 of House Bill No. 1018.
		1018 § 15	Consider studying motion picture incentives. The study must include a review of upper Midwest and neighboring states' statutes on motion picture incentives to assess their successes and challenges; an analysis of the economic impact that would benefit communities through food, lodging, supplies, and transportation; an assessment of existing industry infrastructure in the state and opportunities for growth; and an identification of unique geographic, seasonal, regulatory, and topographical assets the state has for the motion picture industry.
		1050 § 6	Consider studying the implications of the potential adoption of an initiated measure allowing the use of recreational marijuana. The study must consider the potential benefits and detriments of legalizing recreational marijuana with respect to: the state's economy, including unemployment and homelessness rates; potential tax revenues and job opportunities; spending on public health and safety programs, including law enforcement agencies and drug treatment programs; and tourism, real estate, construction, and banking; minors, including the rate of drug usage, the effects of marijuana on developing brains, and high school dropout rates; the insurance industry, including health, automobile, and life insurance; the legal system, including crime rates, the prison population, and rates of usage of other drugs; workers' compensation and work-related accidents; public health and safety; and the medical marijuana program.
		1220 § 1	In coordination with the Secretary of State, shall consider studying how the state's central indexing system can be used to provide notification to a secured lender when a super priority lien is filed on the collateral of a secured lender. If the Secretary of State determines there is a solution using the central indexing system, the Secretary of State may proceed with implementing the change prior to the 67 <sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly convening.

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		1246 § 2	Consider studying gratis licenses to hunt deer, antelope, elk, and moose. The study must include consideration of the minimum acreage requirements for a gratis license, restrictions on where individuals with gratis licenses to hunt moose may hunt, how gratis licenses to hunt deer are allocated in units to ensure an adequate supply remains available for individuals with other licenses to hunt deer, and whether eligibility for a gratis license to hunt moose should be annual or once in a lifetime.
		1265 § 1	Consider studying the purpose, value, and benefits of each state park. The study must include a review of each state park's usage, annual attendance figures, overhead, and the cost to operate and maintain each state park.
		1298 § 1	Consider studying accessibility of the state Capitol grounds as related to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [104 Stat. 327; 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.]. The study must include the effectiveness of the quantity and location of handicapped accessible parking spaces and the accessibility of entrances to the Capitol in consideration of security concerns. The study also must include interior considerations, including handicapped accessible restrooms with appropriate signage and seating areas on the ground floor of the Capitol for individuals to rest.
		1367 § 1	Consider studying railroad crossings to determine whether adequate safety measures exist to prevent collisions between trains and motor vehicles. The study must include: consultation with the Department of Transportation, Highway Patrol, and associations and organizations representing counties, cities, townships, and the agricultural community; the design and safety of railroad crossings and the feasibility of implementing design changes to increase safety and to reduce the likelihood of obstructions at the crossings, and consideration of the adequacy of traffic and pedestrian warning signals; the availability of federal funding for railroad crossing improvement projects; the feasibility of equipping trains with technology to increase safety; and data on railroad crossing accidents and incidents that have occurred within the state on an annual basis over the past 5 years.
		1401 § 1	Consider studying the use of technology to enable remote attendance at interim legislative committee meetings as a cost-saving measure. The study must include consideration of technologies, including telephone conferences, interactive video networks, and other options for video interactions.
		1435 § 5	Consider studying consolidated emergency and interoperable public safety communications system governance and funding options.
		1453 § 6	Consider studying the state's civil commitment laws and procedures under North Dakota Century Code Chapters 25-03.1 and 25-03.2 and the behavioral health and civil justice systems to determine whether: steps could be taken to prevent and to decrease the incidence of violence committed by persons who are mentally ill, including the temporary removal of firearms; law enforcement has the authority to confiscate a weapon from an individual who appears to be at serious risk of harm and whether this is applied uniformly by law enforcement across the state; our behavioral health and civil justice systems could take steps to be more effective in intervening in the early stages of an individual's mental illness to treat the illness and avoid violence and possible contact with law enforcement; and there is a lack of uniformity in how early intervention and civil commitment is implemented across the state, and to the extent there may be a lack of uniformity, to what this lack of uniformity is attributable to and whether education and training of stakeholders may help facilitate more uniformity. If the Legislative Management conducts this study, the judicial branch shall provide the Legislative Management with court data necessary to conduct the study, including data from each of the counties in the state regarding civil commitment proceedings and outcomes.

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		1467 § 1	Consider studying agricultural issues in the state, including studying grain buyers, roving grain buyers, grain brokers, and grain handling facilities under title 60; and issues related to prepayment for fertilizer, soil amendments, seed, and fuel in situations of insolvency. The study must include a review of the current law, industry practices, and background checks relating to grain buyers, roving grain buyers, grain brokers, and handling facilities and a review of any potential efficiencies that may exist, methods of maintaining financial security during the grain buying process, including consideration of facility operating capital to ensure adequate solvency during licensing, and the process of confidential financial and physical audits. The study also must include a review of the law pertaining to grain handling facility asset lists to determine if changes are required to ensure producers are protected from facility insolvency if an end product is refined and no longer reflects the original product, the indemnity fund under title 60, and grain handling facility bonding requirements.
		1470 § 4	Consider studying the leave policies for state employees. The study shall include the efficacy and desirability of transitioning annual leave and sick leave into a combined paid time off system.
		1474 § 1	Consider studying options for replacing revenue generated by special assessments with revenue from an alternative local funding source. The study must include a review of the purposes for which special assessments are imposed, the revenue generated from the imposition of special assessments, local revenue sources that could be used as an alternative to imposing special assessments, and the manner in which fees for an alternative local revenue source would be calculated and imposed as compared to the manner in which special assessments are calculated and imposed.
		1487 § 1	Consider studying the homestead tax credit, a credit that reduces the property taxes of individuals who are 65 years of age or older or individuals who are permanently and totally disabled and whose income is \$42,000 or less per year. The study must include consideration of whether: the income levels and asset thresholds specified in the credit should be modified or indexed; the credit impacts property valuations; the qualifying age of 65 years of age or older is appropriate considering changing demographics; and the current criteria for qualifying for the credit is effectively targeting those most in need. The study also must include a review of the number of individuals who have claimed the credit in the past, an estimate of the number of individuals who might claim the credit in future years, and the estimated fiscal impact of making any changes to the credit.
		1519 § 2	Consider studying the list of debilitating medical conditions under the medical marijuana program to determine the appropriateness of the list, including whether conditions should be added to or removed from the list.
		2010 § 17	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of state guaranteed issue provisions for health insurance. The study must include consideration of protections for individuals with pre-existing conditions and consideration of whether to restructure the Comprehensive Health Association of North Dakota.
		2010 § 18	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of establishing a pension for volunteer firefighters. The study must include a review of firefighter needs in the state and benefits provided to volunteer firefighters in other states.
		2012 § 48	Consider studying the delivery of health care in the state. The study must review the needs and future challenges of the North Dakota health care delivery system, including rural access to primary health care, the use of emergency medical services, strategies to better serve residents, and the role of health care services in the future development of the state.
		2013 § 20	Consider studying school transportation, including district routes, expenditures, reimbursement, and possible efficiencies.

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		2013 § 21	Consider studying dual-credit, advanced placement, and distance education courses. The study must include a review of early enrollment placement testing and the qualifications for dual-credit and advanced placement courses. The study also must include a review of the costs and amounts of funding necessary to provide all students access to dual-credit, advanced placement, and distance education courses, as well as the types of courses available and the delivery methods necessary to provide all students with access.
		2015 § 33	Consider studying issues related to the Olmstead Commission. The study must include consideration of the implementation of the new Olmstead Commission structure and any emerging Olmstead issues related to services for elderly individuals and individuals with behavioral health issues, physical disabilities, or intellectual disabilities.
		2015 § 34	Consider studying the state's charitable gaming laws. The study must include: an evaluation of whether charitable gaming is being expanded properly; whether the addition of new games, such as sports betting and historic horse racing, is appropriate; and whether such expansion should be approved by the voters; an evaluation regarding the appropriate limitations, restrictions, and oversight if new games are added; an evaluation of whether a portion of gaming proceeds should be deposited in the gambling disorder prevention and treatment fund; and a review of whether the laws regarding taxation, eligible uses for proceeds, gambling sites and locations, limitations, enforcement, conduct and play of charitable gaming are fair, adequate, and appropriate.
		2015 § 35	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of developing other allowable revenue generating uses of the Veterans' Home facilities and grounds in addition to the purposes identified in Section 37-15-02. The study must include an analysis of potential revenue generating activities for the Veterans' Home facilities and grounds, including a review of the effect on any federal requirements.
		2042 § 1	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of developing standard procedures and classification of accounts to provide a means of accumulating financial information that is uniform for all counties, regardless of the county's size or various approaches to budgeting and accounting which may be in use, with the objective of achieving uniformity of financial information to guide preparation of financial reports required by law.
		2061 § 2	Consider studying current methods, using the electric vehicle infrastructure coalition, led by the Department of Transportation, to collaborate with the North Dakota utility industry, and North Dakota electric vehicle stakeholder groups, to design a jointly owned public and private network of electric vehicle infrastructure to support both commercial and noncommercial vehicles and make recommendations regarding electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The study must include the evaluation of the relative costs and benefits associated with various options for electric vehicle infrastructure support and estimate the future annual economic impact.
		2176 § 2	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of creating a road train pilot program. The study must include consultation with the Department of Transportation, Highway Patrol, Agriculture Commissioner, Industrial Commission, Department of Commerce, the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, and the Governor. The study must include an assessment of the federal regulations impacting road train operations, the economic impact of permitting road train operations in the state, and the costs associated with implementing a road train pilot program. The Legislative Council may contract for consulting services to assist the Legislative Management in conducting the study.

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		2217 § 1	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of creating a teacher incentive for leadership program. The study must include an evaluation of whether a program would improve student learning through improved instruction; reward effective teachers by providing increased leadership opportunities; attract new teachers to the state by offering competitive starting salaries and professional development; promote collaboration and new career pathways for teachers through mentoring, coaching, and project-based learning; and retain effective teachers through new career opportunities and advancement. The study also must include a review of the types of data to be tracked to determine the success of the program; the correlation and effectiveness of the program in relation to other teacher development programs; and how the program operates in relation to the statewide education strategic vision.
		2241 § 1	Consider studying the regulation of sewage treatment system installation, maintenance, testing, and repair. The study must include consideration of a uniform set of rules; uniform occupational licensing requirements; testing and education requirements for occupations that install, maintain, test, and repair sewage treatment systems; the regulatory agency best able to regulate sewage treatment systems; options for maintaining local government control over sewage treatment system regulation; and issues relevant to these considerations.
		2317 § 3	Consider studying the State Department of Health licensing process for health facility construction and renovation projects, including consideration of the appropriate role of the State Department of Health.
		2355 § 1	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of applying an alternative or additional tax on liquid nicotine and electronic smoking devices. The study must include consideration of the current method of taxation applied to these products, the methods of taxation applied in other states, and the fiscal impact of applying an alternative or additional method of taxation.
		2359 § 1	Consider studying the regulation of and scope of practice of electricians. The study must include consideration of scope of practice and regulation as they relate to power limited systems and must include receipt of information from stakeholders, including trade groups.
		3004	Consider studying the potential benefit value of blockchain technology implementation and utilization in state government administration and affairs, including a comprehensive assessment of government areas in which blockchain technology can assist with agency affairs and administration, accounting and budgeting, transactions, creating necessary audit trails, authorizing a decision, authenticating authority, and establishing a system of record; and an analytical evaluation of implementing smart contracts to improve efficiencies in contract enforcement, the cost-effectiveness and increased security of utilizing a blockchain technology electronic voting system, and the exploration of other eGovernment services and applications, such as identity management, tax collection, land registry, distribution of benefits, and digital exchanges.
		3011	Consider studying those provisions of the North Dakota Century Code which relate to the provision of elementary and secondary education to recommend changes to any laws found to be irrelevant, duplicative, inconsistent, or unclear.
		3015	Consider studying best practices to reduce offender recidivism, increase educational opportunities, prepare incarcerated offenders to rejoin their communities, establish and implement a community transitional housing program, including independent host homes, and encourage communities to reintegrate previously incarcerated individuals into society; and may seek technical assistance, as appropriate, from the Council of State Governments' Justice Center.

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		3027	Consider studying the expansion of the Public Employees Retirement System's uniform group insurance health benefits for long-term state employees who separate from employment due to reduction in force or retirement.
		3031	Consider studying the juvenile justice process, levels of collaboration among various service systems, implementation of dispositional alternatives, and methods for improving outcomes for juveniles involved in the process. The Legislative Management may seek technical assistance, as appropriate, from the Council of State Governments' Justice Center.
		3044	Consider studying, in consultation with the Department of Commerce, Department of Human Services, and the private sector, the desirability and feasibility of developing and expanding asset-building opportunities, including a review of state and federal policies associated with government assistance which impede or improve low-income workers' ability to earn more income.
		3047	Consider studying state and federal veterans' programs, the programs' eligibility requirements, and the efficiency of public or private entities responsible for the administration of state and federal veterans' programs to ensure all current and future North Dakota veterans receive the care, assistance, and benefits to which the veterans are entitled. The study must include consultation with the Administrative Committee on Veterans' Affairs, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Adjutant General, and any veterans organization seeking to provide input.
		3048	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of establishing a wind reclamation fund and whether the statutorily required minimum wind turbine setback distances provide adequate protections to nonparticipating landowners and their property.
		3051	Consider studying the feasibility, desirability, and benefits of expanding the goods and services produced by Roughrider Industries into additional noncompetitive markets to provide inmates with the training and skills to successfully reintegrate the inmates into society; and must include consultation with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and any private North Dakota business seeking to provide input.
		3052	Consider studying the traffic fines and penalties imposed by state and local governments and conduct a complete analysis of North Dakota Century Code Title 39. The study must include a comprehensive assessment addressing any inconsistencies, conflicting chapters or sections, or lack of clarity within Title 39 and a review of North Dakota's traffic fines, fees, and penalty statutes and compare them with the fines, fees, and penalties of other states; and include an analytical evaluation of methods to improve traffic safety, decrease motor vehicle crashes, fatalities, and injuries, and discourage impaired driving, speeding, distracted driving, and lack of seatbelt use in North Dakota.
		3054	Consider studying the necessary steps and resources, including funding, to eliminate HIV and AIDS in North Dakota.
		3056	Consider studying the issues and data reporting challenges related to missing and murdered indigenous people and human trafficking cases.
		4004	Consider studying the impact of students who experience behavioral health crisis or who engage in intense and aggressive behavior for communication purposes, both of which result in behaviors that make learning environments unsafe for other students, teachers, and other school personnel, and the need to implement a uniform reporting system.
		4009	Consider studying the feasibility and desirability of the water resource boards in each drainage basin forming a joint water resource board to plan and construct water conveyance projects based on basinwide needs.

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		4010	Consider studying postproduction deductions from royalty payments. The study must include consideration of the methods used to calculate the value of oil and gas, the point of sale used to determine the value, oil and gas sales in the absence of an arm's-length contract, any deductions or incentives applied to the value, and the methods used to report any deductions or incentives on mineral royalty statements; and must include input from representatives from the oil and gas industry, representatives from an organization representing royalty owners, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Trust Lands, the Attorney General's office, and other state agencies.
		4013	Consider studying the distribution and transportation of food in the state necessary to the lives of individuals in rural communities, and the roles of state entities in facilitating the movement of food to rural areas of the state.
		4014	Consider studying the implementation of the recommendations of the Human Services Research Institute's study of North Dakota's behavioral health system and that in conducting the study, the Legislative Management receive regular updates on each of the major recommendation areas from the report; identify the availability, access, and delivery of behavioral health services; seek input from stakeholders, including law enforcement, social and clinical service providers, medical providers, mental health advocacy organizations, emergency medical service providers, juvenile court personnel, educators, tribal governments, and state and local agencies; and consider options for improving access and the availability for behavioral health care.