

**Workforce Safety and Insurance
Budget No. 485
Senate Bill No. 2021, House Bill No. 1014**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2007-09 executive budget (bills as introduced)	223.14	\$0	\$50,020,989	\$50,020,989
2007-09 legislative appropriations	237.14		53,241,155	53,241,155
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	14.00	\$0	\$3,220,166	\$3,220,166
Legislative increase (decrease) to 2005-07 appropriations	14.00	\$0	\$19,718,154	\$19,718,154

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS

Salaries and Wages

Section 4 of Senate Bill No. 2021 provides that the general salary and fringe benefits guidelines as contained in Senate Bill No. 2189 do not apply to Workforce Safety and Insurance. Workforce Safety and Insurance may provide salary increases based on the agency's merit and performance system for the 2007-09 biennium.

	Major Items			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Reduced funding recommended in the executive budget relating to retiree health credit contributions			(\$32,577)	(\$32,577)
Provided funding for 14 new FTE positions	14.00		1,821,456	1,821,456
Provided funding for pay for performance increases			1,176,690	1,176,690
Provided funding for additional operating expenses			254,597	254,597
Total	<u>14.00</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$3,220,166</u>	<u>\$3,220,166</u>

FTE Changes

The 2007-09 biennium appropriation includes funding for 237.14 FTE positions, an increase of 14 FTE positions from the 2005-07 biennium authorized level and 2007-09 executive recommendation of 223.14 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly added 1 FTE information services position, 1 FTE school monitoring specialist position, 1 FTE underwriter position, 4 FTE loss prevention representative positions, 2 FTE loss control representative positions, and 5 FTE claims adjuster positions.

Other Sections in Senate Bill No. 2021

Performance audit recommendations - Section 5 provides that Workforce Safety and Insurance report quarterly to the Budget Section during the 2007-08 interim on the agency's status of implementing the performance audit recommendations of the State Auditor.

Occupational health and preventive medicine programs - Section 6 provides that Workforce Safety and Insurance may establish and implement programs to advance occupational health and preventive medicine in North Dakota and protect the integrity of the Workforce Safety and Insurance fund. The programs may include the provision of education or training, consultation, grants, scholarships, or other incentives that promote superior care and treatment of the workforce in the state.

Related Legislation

Workers' Compensation Review Committee - House Bill No. 1156 continues the Legislative Council Workers' Compensation Review Committee. The committee is to review workers' compensation claims that are brought forward by injured workers for the purpose of determining whether changes should be made to the laws relating to workers' compensation.

Workforce Safety and Insurance Board of Directors - House Bill No. 1460 provides changes relating to the appointment of members to the Workforce Safety and Insurance Board of Directors.

Spending authority - House Bill No. 1460 provides that Workforce Safety and Insurance may not expend funds for the purpose of providing workers' compensation education or training for public officials other than the director and members of the board of directors, or for providing awards, other than service awards or other awards or incentives allowed under law and applicable to executive branch agencies.

Workforce Safety and Insurance governance structure study - House Bill No. 1460 provides that the Legislative Council consider studying, during the 2007-08 interim, the Workforce Safety and Insurance governance structure changes enacted by the 2007 Legislative Assembly.