

**Ethics Commission  
Budget No. 195  
House Bill No. 1024**

	<b>FTE Positions</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
2021-23 legislative appropriation	1.00	\$623,984	\$0	\$623,984
2019-21 legislative appropriation	<u>2.00</u>	<u>517,155</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>517,155</u>
2021-23 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2019-21 appropriation	(1.00)	\$106,829	\$0	\$106,829

**Item Description**

**Overview of Ethics Commission** - House Bill No. 1521 (2019) created Chapter 54-66 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 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. In addition to the executive director, the Ethics Commission employs an administrative position that is being filled on a temporary basis. During calendar year 2021 the commission received nine complaints. All nine complaints were dismissed due to jurisdictional issues or incorrect allegations.