

North Dakota Legislative Process 101

A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF HOW THE STATE
LEGISLATIVE SYSTEM IS DESIGNED TO WORK



STRATEGIES

Committees in the N.D. Legislature

- **Procedural Committees:** 6 in House & Senate
- **Standing Committees:** 11 in House & Senate
 - *Agriculture*
 - *Appropriations (Three divisions in House)*
 - *Education*
 - *Energy and Natural Resources*
 - *Finance and Taxation*
 - *Government and Veterans Affairs*
 - *Human Services*
 - *Industry, Business, and Labor*
 - *Judiciary*
 - *Political Subdivisions*
 - *Transportation*
- **Interim Committees:** 28 Standing and Special



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How a Bill Becomes Law

1. Bill Preparation
2. Bill Introduction
3. Bill Number Assignment
4. Committee Assignment and Introduction
5. Public Input
6. Committee Recommendation
7. Calendar Placement and Consideration



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How a Bill Becomes Law

8. Floor Debate
9. Chamber Consideration
10. Second House Consideration
11. Conference Committee
12. Enrollment
13. Veto Override (If necessary)
14. Voters' Referral (Used occasionally)
15. Initiated Measure (Used occasionally)



Public Hearings

- Every bill receives a public hearing and a vote on the floor of origin.
- **The Hearing Process:**
 - *Bill sponsor presents the case for the bill.*
 - *Supporters and opponents testify on the bill.*
 - *Vote to follow either after the hearing or at another time.*
- Hearings tend to be informal – when testifying you should be factual, brief, and conversational in tone.



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Thank You!



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