

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

SENATE BILL NO. 2026  
(Legislative Management)  
(Agriculture and Transportation Committee)

AN ACT to provide for a department of transportation long combination vehicle study and pilot projects; and to provide for a legislative management report.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LONG COMBINATION VEHICLE STUDY AND PILOT PROJECTS - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.**

1. During the 2021-22 interim, the department of transportation shall study and conduct pilot projects on the feasibility and impact of long combination vehicle operations on North Dakota roadways. The study must include:
  - a. An assessment of the federal regulations impacting long combination vehicle operations beyond the configurations currently allowed, including configuration combinations allowed in Canada and other jurisdictions;
  - b. An evaluation of the economic impact of permitting long combination vehicle operations in the state;
  - c. An assessment of the impact long combination vehicle operations would have on North Dakota bridges and structures;
  - d. An assessment and evaluation of road networks that are compatible with certain long combination vehicle configurations, or with minor modifications, not exceeding one hundred thirty feet of cargo carrying capacity unless approved by the director of the department of transportation;
  - e. Implementing pilot project safety guidelines that include protocols for traffic safety and inclement weather operations;
  - f. An assessment of the costs associated with implementing long combination vehicle operations; and
  - g. An examination of the size and weight provisions provided under chapter 39-12.
2. If a pilot project includes operating on county, city, or township roads, an agreement with local road authorities must be in place to address traffic safety considerations and costs directly attributed to the pilot project.
3. The director of the department of transportation may waive certain statutory size and weight restrictions for the pilot projects.
4. The department of transportation may continue any pilot project commenced under subsection 1 until the department determines sufficient information has been gathered to determine the pilot project is no longer necessary.
5. Before August 1, 2022, the department of transportation shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the legislative management.

Larry Swick  
President of the Senate

David Heggelund  
Speaker of the House

Shanda Meyer  
Secretary of the Senate

Bruce J. Reich  
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2026.

Senate Vote:    Yeas 39            Nays 6            Absent 2

House Vote:    Yeas 70            Nays 22           Absent 2

Shanda Meyer  
Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at 11:52 AM on April 22, 2021.

Approved at 12:50 P M. on April 23, 2021.

Doug Burgum  
Governor

Filed in this office this 23rd day of April, 2021,  
at 3:49 o'clock P. M.

David L. Stegeman  
Secretary of State