



May 9, 2023

The Honorable Tammy Miller
President of the Senate
North Dakota Senate Chambers
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND

Re: Senate Bill 2015

Dear President Miller:

Pursuant to Article V, Section 9 of the North Dakota Constitution, I have signed Senate Bill 2015, the Office of Management and Budget appropriations bill, and filed it with the Secretary of State. I also have vetoed items in Sections 30, 32 and 53 of SB 2015.

Section 30.

Section 30 changes the definition of Legacy Fund "earnings," which was established earlier this session by the Legislature in SB 2330 as an amount equal to 7% of the five-year average of the June 30th value of the Legacy Fund assets as reported by the State Investment Board, calculated every other year on even-numbered years.

The Legacy Fund, our state's permanent endowment fund, is growing rapidly, with a balance of \$8.8 billion at the end of February 2023. The Legacy Fund directly receives 30% of North Dakota oil and gas tax revenue, with the other 70% being invested each biennium on water and road infrastructure, education, human services, local political subdivisions and other priorities that touch the lives of every North Dakotan.

On the last day of session, Section 30 of SB 2015 was added to increase the percentage used in the earnings calculation from 7% to 8%. With this higher percentage, the Legislature would be withdrawing an estimated \$70.5 million in additional Legacy Fund earnings every two years, only to have these withdrawals sit in low interest-bearing general fund accounts.

Vetoing the change in Section 30 and maintaining the percentage at 7% will retain that \$70.5 million in earnings in the Legacy Fund, helping the fund to grow at a faster pace while protecting the Legacy Fund's principal and utilizing better cash management to generate higher earnings – all while not affecting any specific appropriations in the 2023-25 budget.

One estimate projects that the 8% rate would have resulted in roughly \$600 million to \$650 million less in the Legacy Fund's balance after 10 years. By keeping the withdrawal percentage at 7% every other year, a projected \$486 million in Legacy Fund earnings still remains in the 2023-25 final budget. Retaining more earnings in the Legacy Fund helps ensure a strong and stable future for North Dakota.

Section 32.

Section 32 adds an unnecessary restriction on the authority of the Capital Grounds Planning Commission to use designated funds where they have the most impact.

This nine-member Commission includes the lieutenant governor, director of the State Historical Society, two citizen appointees, one licensed architect and four legislators, two from each chamber.

The duties of the Commission include the general administration of the Capitol Building Fund and the proper planning to maintain standards of the design and architecture for state facilities. In addition, Century Code already prescribes that major interior changes including new construction, remodeling, or renovation of any kind that are proposed or considered for the buildings or facilities on the Capitol grounds must be reviewed by the Commission.

Section 32 contradicts those duties by limiting the scope of work for the Commission by requiring that expenditures for projects and planning must be related to remodeling expenses only. The current process for the Commission has been effective in maintaining the symbol and headquarters of state government, and this change only adds red tape and guts the authority of a thoughtfully designed, existing governance board with a track record of making prudent, prioritized and fiscally responsible decisions.

This proposed restriction on the authority of the Commission will impair its ability to cover the comprehensive and complex needs of maintaining an accessible, safe and inspiring Capitol grounds with 132 acres and a collection of historically significant buildings totaling over 1.1 million square feet.

Section 53.

Section 53 of SB 2015 applies a retroactive date for House Bill 1438, which I signed earlier this session granting a property tax exemption for buildings and land belonging to certain nonprofit public charities, including hospitals and nursing homes, effective Dec. 31, 2022.

Section 53 retroactively applies the tax exemption to become effective Dec. 31, 2021, which creates numerous implementation problems.

The tax revenue for the 2021 calendar year has already been collected and allocated by the proper political subdivisions, including local school districts, cities, counties, park districts and many other taxing districts, and there is no mechanism for these local governments to recover

those funds. Thus, the only way to retroactively fulfill the tax exemption is for each local government to grant a 2021 rebate to the nonprofit directly from other tax dollars collected in 2022. However, some political subdivisions may not have the liquidity or systems to facilitate this transfer between taxpayers and certain nonprofits, making the claw-back provision of Section 53 especially onerous on those local governments, school districts and their constituents.

The hallmark of a strong and fair economy is a stable tax and regulatory environment. Passing retroactive tax laws sets a dangerous precedent. Local political subdivisions have been following existing tax laws, and it's unfair to them to change the tax rules to enable a claw-back after the taxable period has been closed for nearly 1½ years.

For the reasons stated above, Sections 30, 32 and 53 of SB 2015 are vetoed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Burgum", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Doug Burgum
Governor

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

SENATE BILL NO. 2015
(Appropriations Committee)

AN ACT to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the various divisions under the supervision of the director of the office of management and budget; to provide an appropriation to the office of the governor, legislative assembly, adjutant general, legislative council, department of environmental quality, department of labor and human rights, department of public instruction, department of commerce, department of health and human services, department of career and technical education, and judicial branch; to create and enact a new subsection to section 10-30.5-02 and a new subsection to section 54-44-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the purpose and use of the North Dakota development fund and a facility management operating fund; to amend and reenact section 15.1-27-04.1 as amended by section 10 of Senate Bill No. 2284, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, sections 15.1-36-02 and 15.1-36-04, subsection 2 of the new section to chapter 19-03.1, as created by section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2248, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, subsection 1 of section 21-10-12, as amended in section 3 of Senate Bill No. 2330, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, section 24-02-37.3, as amended by section 10 of House Bill No. 1012, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, sections 48-10-02, 54-06-14.7, and 54-21-19, sections 54-52-02.5, 54-52-02.9, 54-52-02.11, and 54-52-02.12, as amended in sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, section 54-52-02.15 as created by section 7 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, section 54-52-03, subsection 2 of section 54-52-06.4, as amended in section 1 of House Bill No. 1309, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, subsection 4 of section 54-52-17, as amended in section 4 of House Bill No. 1183, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, section 54-52.2-09 as created by section 13 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, subsection 3 of section 54-52.6-01 and section 54-52.6-02 as amended in sections 14 and 15 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, subsection 1 of section 54-52.6-02.1 and section 54-52.6-02.2 as created by sections 16 and 17 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, subsection 2 of section 54-52.6-03 as amended by section 18 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, section 54-52.6-09 as amended in section 22 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, section 54-63.1-04, and the new subsection to section 61-16.1-11, as created in section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2372, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, of the North Dakota Century Code and section 2 of House Bill No. 1438, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, relating to baseline funding and the determination of state school aid, loans from the coal development trust fund, evidence of indebtedness, distribution of illegal drugs, legacy fund earnings, the flexible transportation fund, the capitol grounds planning commission spending limit, the state leave sharing program, capitol grounds rent collections, the retirement board, the public employees retirement system retirement plan, the public employees retirement system plan for state peace officers, the clean sustainable energy authority duties, and joint water resource boards; to repeal section 5 of Senate Bill No. 2020, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, relating to a transfer of Bank of North Dakota profits to a water infrastructure revolving loan fund; to provide for a transfer; to provide an exemption; to provide for a legislative management study; to provide a report; to provide a penalty; to provide for application; to provide a retroactive effective date; to provide a contingent effective date; to provide an effective date; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the office of management and budget for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the office of management and budget, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, as follows:

	<u>Base Level</u>	<u>Adjustments or Enhancements</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
Salaries and wages	\$21,926,979	\$1,231,851	\$23,158,830
Operating expenses	15,663,214	3,729,579	19,392,793
Capital assets	764,515	8,567,640	9,332,155
Emergency commission contingency fund	400,000	0	400,000
Targeted market equity pool	0	82,500,000	82,500,000
Guardianship grants	2,450,000	4,650,000	7,100,000
Prairie public broadcasting	1,200,000	1,792,450	2,992,450
Community service supervision grants	350,000	0	350,000
State student internship program	0	500,000	500,000
Governor's emergency education relief	0	3,659,555	3,659,555
Deferred maintenance funding pool	0	20,000,000	20,000,000
New and vacant FTE funding pool	0	98,200,000	98,200,000
Employer retirement contribution pool	0	12,538,779	12,538,779
Infrastructure grant	<u>0</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
Total all funds	\$42,754,708	\$237,569,854	\$280,324,562
Less estimated income	<u>8,828,309</u>	<u>137,175,715</u>	<u>146,004,024</u>
Total general fund	\$33,926,399	\$100,394,139	\$134,320,538
Full-time equivalent positions	108.00	2.00	110.00

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO THE SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-seventh legislative assembly for the 2021-23 biennium and the 2023-25 biennium one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

<u>One-Time Funding Description</u>	<u>2021-23</u>	<u>2023-25</u>
Griggs County medical center grant	\$500,000	\$0
Facility consolidation study	350,000	0
Special assessments on capitol grounds	300,000	0
Interior and exterior signage projects	500,000	0
Statewide budget software	1,230,100	0
Capitol accessibility improvements	750,000	0
Legislative wing ventilation improvements	7,000,000	0
Pierce County medical center grant	1,000,000	0
Accrued leave retirement payouts	0	100,369
Inflationary increases	0	340,000
Capitol accessibility consulting	25,000	50,000
Accessibility improvements - legislative areas	0	150,000
State employee leave management system	0	335,000
Cash management study	0	450,000
Procurement software	2,021,204	400,000
Building automation project	518,800	800,000
Extraordinary repairs	500,000	250,000
Capitol space utilization improvements	0	2,500,000
Central services software and equipment	0	573,800
Governor's residence improvements	0	100,000
Brynhild Haugland room remodeling project	0	250,000
Capitol window replacement project	0	4,000,000
Deferred maintenance projects	10,000,000	20,000,000

Prairie public broadcasting grants	0	1,792,450
State student internship program	100,000	500,000
Governor's emergency education relief	0	3,659,555
Infrastructure grant	0	<u>200,000</u>
Total all funds	\$24,795,104	\$36,451,174
Less estimated income	<u>24,695,104</u>	<u>29,934,355</u>
Total general fund	\$100,000	\$6,516,819

The 2023-25 biennium one-time funding amounts are not a part of the entity's base budget for the 2025-27 biennium. The office of management and budget shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-ninth legislative assembly on the use of this one-time funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - COMMUNITY SERVICE SUPERVISION FUND. Any moneys in the community service supervision fund under section 29-26-22 are appropriated to the office of management and budget for distribution to community corrections association regions on or before August first of each year for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - 2021-23 BIENNIUM - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR - LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1. There is appropriated from special funds derived from federal funds or other income, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$6,500, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the office of the governor for the salaries and wages line item for the period beginning with the effective date of this section, and ending June 30, 2023.
2. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$5,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative assembly for international legislators' forum dues for the period beginning with the effective date of this section, and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - 2021-23 BIENNIUM - ADJUTANT GENERAL - STATE DISASTER RELIEF FUND - SNOW REMOVAL GRANTS - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.

1. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the state disaster relief fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$5,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the adjutant general for the purpose of providing full season emergency snow removal grants to tribal governments, counties, cities, and townships, for the period beginning with the effective date of this section, and ending June 30, 2023.
2. A tribal government, county, township, or city may apply to the department of emergency services for a full season emergency snow removal grant for reimbursement of up to sixty percent of the snow removal costs incurred by the tribal government, county, city, or township for the period of October 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023, which exceeded one hundred fifty percent of the average snow removal cost for the seven-month period of October to April for the four lowest cost years for those years during the period beginning October 1, 2017, through April 30, 2022.
3. Each tribal government, county, city, or township requesting reimbursement under this section shall submit the request in accordance with guidelines developed by the department of emergency services. An award under subsection 2 must be reduced by any amount awarded under Senate Bill No. 2183, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly. A tribal government, county, city, or township may not be required to return any funds awarded under Senate Bill No. 2183, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, due to the calculation completed under subsection 2.

4. The department of emergency services shall distribute the grants under this section before June 30, 2023, and shall report to the legislative management regarding the grants awarded.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - GENERAL FUND - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY - DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND HUMAN RIGHTS - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - REPORT - ONE-TIME FUNDING. For the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, there is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the following amounts, or so much of the sum as may be necessary:

1. \$500,000 to the legislative council for the purpose of contracting for a performance audit of the state auditor and for other consulting services of interim committees. The chairman of the legislative management shall arrange for the audit and receive the audit report. The performance audit must address the efficiency and effectiveness of the state auditor's office relative to industry best practices. The performance audit must include a review of the appropriateness of the number of hours to complete audits; methods used to monitor staff time and allocate hours charged to audits; billing processes; quality assurance processes; the adequacy and timeliness of communications with audited entities, governing boards, and the public; and other areas as determined by the chairman of the legislative management. The funding provided in this subsection is considered a one-time funding item.
2. \$40,000 to the department of environmental quality for the purpose of providing meeting expense reimbursement to members of the onsite wastewater recycling technical committee. A member of the committee who is not a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for mileage and expenses as provided by law for state officers and employees, to be paid by the department of environmental quality. A state employee who is a member of the committee is entitled to receive that employee's regular salary and is entitled to reimbursement for mileage and expenses to be paid by the employing agency.
3. \$50,000 to the department of labor and human rights for the purpose of defraying expenses of analyzing the administration of occupational and professional boards pursuant to Senate Bill No. 2249, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly. The funding provided in this subsection is considered a one-time funding item.
4. \$3,000,000 to the department of public instruction for the purpose of providing integrated formula payments.
5. \$500,000 to the department of commerce for the purpose of providing workforce development grants to a tribally controlled community college in the Turtle Mountain area. To be eligible for a grant under this section, a tribally controlled community college shall partner with at least one high school in the state for programs under section 54-60.2-02. During the 2023-24 interim, a tribally controlled community college receiving funding under this program shall report to the department of commerce by August 1, 2024, regarding the use of grant funds and the department of commerce shall provide a report to the legislative management by October 1, 2024, regarding the use of grant funds. The funding provided in this subsection is considered a one-time funding item.
6. \$2,000,000 to the department of commerce for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the office of legal immigration. The funding provided in this subsection is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - DEPARTMENT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION - ONE-TIME FUNDING - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REPORT. For the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, there is appropriated out of any moneys in the strategic investment and improvements fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the following amounts, or so much of the sum as may be necessary:

1. \$8,250,000 to the department of health and human services for the purpose of providing a behavioral health facility grant. The department of health and human services shall provide the grant as follows:
 - a. A grant of \$8,250,000 must be provided to establish a behavioral health facility in the badlands human service center service region. The grant recipient must provide matching funds of \$1,950,000 to establish the facility.
 - b. The department shall require an entity receiving funding under this subsection to operate the facility for a period of at least ten years and require the grant amount to be repaid if the entity does not operate the facility for at least ten years.
 - c. The requirements of chapter 54-44.4 do not apply to the selection of a grant recipient, the grant award, or payments made under this subsection.
 - d. The funding provided under this subsection is a one-time funding item.

2. \$26,500,000 to the department of career and technical education for the purpose of defraying inflationary costs of existing projects approved under the statewide area career center initiative grant program during the 2021-23 biennium. The department of career and technical education shall distribute the funding to existing career academy projects proportionally based on funding allocations provided to each project during the 2021-23 biennium. If funding approved in this subsection is provided for a career academy project and the funding becomes uncommitted during the 2023-25 biennium, the department of career and technical education may redistribute the funding for existing projects under the program during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The department of career and technical education shall report to the legislative management during the 2023-24 interim and to the appropriations committees of the sixty-ninth legislative assembly regarding the amount of inflationary funding provided for each project and the construction status of each project. The funding provided under this subsection is considered a one-time funding item.

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - JUDICIAL BRANCH - EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION FUNDING. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the judicial branch for the purpose of providing funding for the cost of the one percent employer retirement contribution increase included in House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

Salaries and wages	<u>\$347,518</u>
Total all funds	\$347,518
Less estimated income	<u>4,273</u>
Total general fund appropriation	\$343,245

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION FUNDING. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$58,283, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the purpose of providing funding for the cost of the one percent employer retirement contribution increase included in House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY - FEDERAL STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND - EXEMPTION - SPENDING RESTRICTION - REPORT.

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on December 1, 2024, the office of management and budget shall transfer any uncommitted federal state fiscal recovery fund appropriation authority from the state agency that received the appropriation authority to the department of corrections and rehabilitation for the purpose of defraying the expenses of salaries and wages

and other operating costs of the department of corrections and rehabilitation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

2. The office of management and budget shall transfer any uncommitted accumulated interest and earnings of the federal state fiscal recovery fund to the department of corrections and rehabilitation during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. Any interest and earnings received by the department of corrections and rehabilitation under this section are appropriated to the department for the purpose of defraying the expenses of salaries and wages and other operating costs of the department for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.
3. The department of corrections and rehabilitation may not spend general fund savings resulting from the use of the federal state fiscal recovery fund moneys.
4. The office of management and budget shall report to the budget section regarding any appropriation authority and interest and earnings transferred under this section.

SECTION 11. TRANSFER - TAX RELIEF FUND OR SOCIAL SERVICES FUND TO HUMAN SERVICE FINANCE FUND. The office of management and budget shall transfer the sum of \$200,000,000 from the tax relief fund or the social services fund under section 57-51.1-07.5 to the human service finance fund during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 12. TRANSFER - STATE STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FUNDS TO STATE AGENCIES. The office of management and budget shall transfer funds from the state student internship program line item in section 1 of this Act to eligible state agencies for student internships during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 13. TRANSFER - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND TO GENERAL FUND. The office of management and budget shall transfer the sum of \$50,000,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund to the general fund during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 14. TRANSFER - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND TO NORTH DAKOTA DEVELOPMENT FUND. The office of management and budget shall transfer the sum of \$30,000,000 from the strategic investment and improvements fund to the North Dakota development fund for programs under chapter 10-30.5, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 15. ESTIMATED INCOME - STRATEGIC INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS FUND - DEFERRED MAINTENANCE FUNDING POOL - EXEMPTION - TRANSFER TO STATE AGENCIES. The sum of \$20,000,000 included in the deferred maintenance funding pool line item in section 1 of this Act and identified as one-time funding in section 2 of this Act is from the strategic investment and improvements fund for a deferred maintenance funding pool. The office of management and budget may use up to \$12,700,000 from the deferred maintenance funding pool, including up to \$12,000,000 for a boiler replacement project in the capitol and up to \$700,000 for a water mitigation project at the liberty memorial building. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the office of management and budget shall transfer funds from the deferred maintenance funding pool line item in section 1 of this Act to other eligible state agencies for deferred maintenance.

SECTION 16. ESTIMATED INCOME - CAPITOL BUILDING FUND. The sum of \$5,550,000 included in the capital assets line item in section 1 of this Act and identified as one-time funding in section 2 of this Act is from the capitol building fund for the following:

1. \$150,000 for accessibility improvements in legislative areas of the capitol;
2. \$800,000 for a building automation project;
3. \$250,000 for electrical and mechanical repairs;

4. \$100,000 for security improvements at the governor's residence;
5. \$250,000 for a remodeling project in the Brynhild Haugland room in the capitol; and
6. \$4,000,000 for a capitol window replacement project.

SECTION 17. OPERATING EXPENSES LINE ITEM - CASH MANAGEMENT STUDY - OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT. The operating expenses line item in section 1 of this Act includes the sum of \$450,000 from the general fund for the purpose of the office of management and budget procuring consulting services to conduct a study and develop recommendations for improvement of the cash management practices of the state, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The study must include cash management practices employed by the Bank of North Dakota, state treasurer, retirement and investment office, board of university and school lands, and other agencies as determined by the office of management and budget. The office of management and budget shall report to the legislative management before September 30, 2024, regarding the findings and recommendations resulting from its study.

SECTION 18. INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT LINE ITEM - RURAL SENIOR CENTER. The infrastructure grant line item in section 1 of this Act includes the sum of \$200,000 from the general fund for the purpose of providing a rural senior center infrastructure grant to an organization in Wells County located in a city with a population between 1,500 and 1,800 according to the 2020 census, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 19. GRANTS AND SPECIAL ITEMS. Section 1 of this Act includes appropriation authority which may be used only for the following grants and special items:

Unemployment insurance	\$1,800,000
Capitol grounds planning commission	\$25,000
Statewide memberships and related expenses	\$685,657

SECTION 20. TARGETED MARKET EQUITY COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENTS - GUIDELINES - EXEMPTION - TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY - BUDGET SECTION REPORT.

1. The targeted market equity pool line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$45,100,000 from the general fund and \$37,400,000 from special funds derived from federal funds and other income for the purpose of providing compensation adjustments for executive branch state employees in accordance with provisions of this section for the period beginning with the effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2025.
2. The targeted market equity compensation adjustments must be prioritized based on a statewide plan prepared by the office of management and budget based on the funding available in the pool. The plan must address occupational market disparities, recruitment and retention challenges, and external pay inequities for employees who are critical to the mission of the agency. Employees whose documented performance levels do not meet standards are not eligible for the market equity compensation adjustments.
3. All targeted market equity compensation adjustments must be provided by July 1, 2023.
4. The funding allocated to each agency must be used for the cost to continue the compensation adjustments for the 2023-25 biennium, including the effect of the market equity adjustments on funding needed for the salary increases authorized by the legislative assembly in section 21 of this Act.
5. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority from the targeted market equity funding pool to eligible executive branch state agencies for approved targeted market equity salary adjustments.

6. The office of management and budget shall provide a report to the budget section regarding the statewide plan, any changes to the plan presented to the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, and the appropriation authority transferred from the pool.

SECTION 21. STATE EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENTS - GUIDELINES.

1. The 2023-25 biennium compensation adjustments for permanent state employees are to average 6 percent per eligible employee for the first fiscal year of the biennium and are to average 4 percent per eligible employee for the second year of the biennium. The increases for the first year of the biennium are to be given beginning with the month of July 2023, to be paid in August 2023, and for the second year of the biennium are to be given beginning with the month of July 2024, to be paid in August 2024. Increases for eligible state employees are to be based on documented performance and are not to be the same percentage increase for each employee.
2. The office of management and budget shall develop guidelines for use by state agencies for providing compensation adjustments for classified state employees. The guidelines must follow the compensation philosophy statement under section 54-44.3-01.2.
3. Probationary employees are not entitled to the increases. However, at the discretion of the appointing authority, probationary employees may be given all or a portion of the increases effective in July, paid in August, or upon completion of probation. Employees whose overall documented performance level does not meet standards are not eligible for any salary increase.

SECTION 22. NEW AND VACANT FTE FUNDING POOL - GUIDELINES - EXEMPTION - TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY - APPLICATION - BUDGET SECTION REPORT.

1. The new and vacant FTE funding pool line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$40,100,000 from the general fund and \$58,100,000 from special funds derived from federal funds and other income for the purpose of providing funding for hiring new full-time equivalent positions and for agencies that do not realize sufficient savings from vacant full-time equivalent positions in accordance with provisions of this section for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.
2. An executive branch state agency that had funding removed by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for purposes of the new and vacant full-time equivalent funding pool may submit a request to the office of management and budget for an allocation of funding from the pool:
 - a. To provide funding for the salaries and wages necessary for the 2023-25 biennium for a new full-time equivalent position authorized by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly from the date of hiring through the end of the biennium;
 - b. To provide funding for the salaries and wages necessary for the 2023-25 biennium for filling a full-time equivalent position that was vacant on July 1, 2023, from the date of hiring through the end of the biennium;
 - c. After March 1, 2025, for salaries and wages funding necessary for the 2023-25 biennium if actual salaries and wages savings from vacant positions adjusted for other salaries and wages uses are less than the estimate used by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly in the development of the agency's appropriation; or
 - d. As requested by the department of transportation, the sum of up to \$7,400,000 for salaries and wages funding needs.
3. The office of management and budget may transfer general fund appropriation authority from the pool to an agency only upon the agency certifying to the office of management and budget

that special funds from federal or other sources are not available for the salaries and wages of the full-time equivalent position.

4. An agency may not receive more funding from the pool than the amount that was removed from the agency budget for new and vacant full-time equivalent positions as contained in the statement of purpose of amendment of bills approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly as printed in the house and senate journals.
5. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority from the new and vacant full-time equivalent funding pool to eligible executive branch state agencies:
 - a. Within fifteen days of receiving an agency request for the hiring of a new full-time equivalent position authorized by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, along with documentation of the salaries and wages necessary for the position for the remainder of the biennium, limited to the amount identified for the position in the statement of purpose of amendment;
 - b. Within fifteen days of receiving an agency request for filling a full-time equivalent position that was vacant on July 1, 2023, along with documentation verifying that funding available for salaries and wages within the agency's budget is insufficient to provide funding for the position for the remainder of the biennium;
 - c. Within thirty days of receiving an agency request, along with documentation verifying that actual salaries and wages savings from vacant positions through February 2025 and estimates for the remainder of the biennium adjusted for other salaries and wages uses are less than the estimate used by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly in the development of the agency's appropriation; or
 - d. Within fifteen days of receiving a request from the department of transportation to transfer the sum of up to \$7,400,000 for salaries and wages funding needs.
6. The provisions of section 54-27-10 do not apply to the salaries and wages line item of appropriations approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.
7. If funding in the new and vacant full-time equivalent funding pool is insufficient to provide the necessary salaries and wages funding for the biennium, the office of management and budget shall request a deficiency appropriation from the sixty-ninth legislative assembly. Any funding remaining in the funding pool at the end of the biennium must be canceled in accordance with the provisions of section 54-44.1-11.
8. The office of management of budget shall report to each meeting of the budget section regarding salaries and wages, vacant position information, and use of funding in the pool including:
 - a. The number of agency requests submitted, amounts transferred from the pool, and information on:
 - (1) New full-time equivalent positions, including the date hired; and
 - (2) Vacant full-time equivalent positions, including dates the positions were vacated and filled;
 - b. Salaries and wages savings to date resulting from vacant positions by agency; and
 - c. Each agency's use of salaries and wages funding, including amounts spent for accrued leave payouts, salary increases in addition to general salary increases provided by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, bonuses, incentive or location pay adjustments,

reclassifications, funding used for temporary salaries or overtime in excess of amounts provided by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, or other purposes.

SECTION 23. EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION POOL - GUIDELINES - EXEMPTION - TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATION AUTHORITY.

1. The employer retirement contribution pool line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$5,563,709 from the general fund and \$6,975,070 from special funds derived from federal funds and other income for providing funding to executive branch agencies for the increased cost of the employer retirement contribution increases included in House Bill No. 1040, House Bill No. 1183, and House Bill No. 1309, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, in accordance with provisions of this section, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.
2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the office of management and budget shall transfer appropriation authority provided in this section to the listed executive branch state agencies as follows:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
Governor	\$26,154	\$0	\$26,154
Secretary of state	24,295	4,050	28,345
Office of management and budget	95,753	16,423	112,176
Information technology department	104,514	525,014	629,528
State auditor	44,533	32,769	77,302
State treasurer	7,502	0	7,502
Attorney general	1,268,037	843,938	2,111,975
Tax commissioner	114,348	0	114,348
Office of administrative hearings	0	7,135	7,135
Commission on legal counsel for indigents	45,111	1,268	46,379
Retirement and investment office	0	42,355	42,355
Public employees retirement system	0	36,736	36,736
Ethics commission	1,957	0	1,957
Department of public instruction	31,605	53,383	84,988
North Dakota university system	39,435	16,789	56,224
Department of trust lands	0	40,947	40,947
Bismarck state college	31,441	56,303	87,744
Lake region state college	14,693	20,449	35,142
Williston state college	8,607	12,224	20,831
University of North Dakota	100,821	520,248	621,069
University of North Dakota school of medicine and health sciences	38,691	68,304	106,995
North Dakota state university	97,772	375,024	472,796
North Dakota state college of science	43,662	53,548	97,210
Dickinson state university	15,061	19,859	34,920
Mayville state university	11,331	43,952	55,283
Minot state university	31,980	49,180	81,160
Valley City state university	17,606	16,577	34,183
Dakota college at Bottineau	8,526	9,863	18,389
North Dakota forest service	8,411	669	9,080
State library	16,695	3,148	19,843
School for the deaf	23,099	1,617	24,716
North Dakota vision services - school for the blind	12,195	1,382	13,577
Center for distance education	9,799	0	9,799
Department of career and technical education	21,878	3,144	25,022
Department of health and human	49,333	156,146	205,479

services - public health			
Department of environmental quality	51,295	119,961	171,256
Veterans' home	20,372	58,979	79,351
Indian affairs commission	4,454	0	4,454
Department of veterans' affairs	7,261	1,075	8,336
Department of health and human services - human services	1,265,293	831,416	2,096,709
Protection and advocacy project	12,935	16,646	29,581
Job service North Dakota	1,878	138,944	140,822
Insurance commissioner	0	51,040	51,040
Industrial commission	123,610	11,031	134,641
Department of labor and human rights	11,636	2,448	14,084
Public service commission	26,468	21,823	48,291
Aeronautics commission	0	8,712	8,712
Department of financial institutions	0	42,723	42,723
Securities department	0	11,771	11,771
Bank of North Dakota	0	181,939	181,939
Housing finance agency	0	53,004	53,004
Mill and elevator association	0	168,887	168,887
Workforce safety and insurance	0	254,365	254,365
Highway patrol	15,723	14,180	29,903
Department of corrections and rehabilitation	1,111,528	59,883	1,171,411
Adjutant general	128,680	235,829	364,509
Department of commerce	65,463	12,165	77,628
Agriculture commissioner	46,693	31,803	78,496
Upper great plains transportation institute	4,868	11,964	16,832
Branch research centers	21,139	14,106	35,245
NDSU extension service	22,744	17,085	39,829
Northern crops institute	797	671	1,468
NDSU main research center	33,694	9,151	42,845
Agronomy seed farm	0	2,958	2,958
North Dakota racing commission	2,008	105	2,113
State historical society	66,191	9,389	75,580
Council on the arts	5,650	0	5,650
Game and fish department	0	381,164	381,164
Parks and recreation department	148,484	8,375	156,859
Department of water resources	0	108,163	108,163
Department of transportation	0	1,050,871	1,050,871
Total	\$5,563,709	\$6,975,070	\$12,538,779

SECTION 24. A new subsection to section 10-30.5-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Moneys in the fund may be used to provide financing for projects that enhance production of clean sustainable energy in the state only to the extent the project has been recommended by the clean sustainable energy authority under chapter 54-63.1.

SECTION 25. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-27-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code as amended by section 10 of Senate Bill No. 2284, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-27-04.1. Baseline funding - Establishment - Determination of state aid. (Effective through June 30, 2025)

1. To determine the amount of state aid payable to each district, the superintendent of public instruction shall establish each district's baseline funding. A district's baseline funding consists of:
 - a. All state aid received by the district in accordance with chapter 15.1-27 during the 2018-19 school year;
 - b. An amount equal to the property tax deducted by the superintendent of public instruction to determine the 2018-19 state aid payment;
 - c. An amount equal to seventy-five percent of the revenue received by the school district during the 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types:
 - (1) Revenue reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08;
 - (2) Mineral revenue received by the school district through direct allocation from the state treasurer and not reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08;
 - (3) Tuition reported under code 1300 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08, with the exception of revenue received specifically for the operation of an educational program provided at a residential treatment facility, tuition received for the provision of an adult farm management program, and beginning in the 2021-22 school year, seventeen percent of tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid, and an additional seventeen percent of tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid each school year thereafter, until the 2024-25 school year when sixty-eight percent of tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid must be excluded from the tuition calculation under this paragraph;
 - (4) Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on the distribution and transmission of electric power;
 - (5) Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on electricity generated from sources other than coal; and
 - (6) Revenue from the leasing of land acquired by the United States for which compensation is allocated to the state under 33 U.S.C. 701(c)(3);
 - d. An amount equal to the total revenue received by the school district during the 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types:
 - (1) Mobile home tax revenue;
 - (2) Telecommunications tax revenue; and
 - (3) Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes and state reimbursement of the homestead credit and disabled veterans credit; and

- e. Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, the superintendent shall reduce the baseline funding for any school district that becomes an elementary district pursuant to section 15.1-07-27 after the 2012-13 school year. The reduction must be proportional to the number of weighted student units in the grades that are offered through another school district relative to the total number of weighted student units the school district offered in the year before the school district became an elementary district. The reduced baseline funding applies to the calculation of state aid for the first school year in which the school district becomes an elementary district and for each year thereafter. For districts that become an elementary district prior to the 2020-21 school year, the superintendent shall use the reduced baseline funding to calculate state aid for the 2020-21 school year and for each year thereafter.
2.
 - a. The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in subsection 1 by the district's 2017-18 weighted student units to determine the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit.
 - b. For any school district that becomes an elementary district pursuant to section 15.1-07-27 after the 2017-18 school year, the superintendent shall adjust the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit used to calculate state aid. The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in subsection 1 by the district's weighted student units after the school district becomes an elementary district to determine the district's adjusted baseline funding per weighted student unit. The superintendent shall use the district's adjusted baseline funding per weighted student unit in the calculation of state aid for the first school year in which the school district becomes an elementary district and for each year thereafter.
 - c. Beginning with the 2021-22 school year and for each school year thereafter, the superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit. Each year the superintendent shall calculate the amount by which the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit exceeds the payment per weighted student unit provided in subsection 3. ~~The~~For the 2023-24 school year the superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit by ~~fifteen~~forty percent of the amount by which the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit exceeds the payment per weighted student unit for the ~~2024-22~~2023-24 school year. For each year thereafter, the reduction percentage is increased by an additional fifteen percent. However, the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit, after the reduction, may not be less than the payment per weighted student unit provided in subsection 3.
 3.
 - a. For the 2023-24 school year, the superintendent shall calculate state aid as the greater of:
 - (1) The district's weighted student units multiplied by ten thousand six hundred forty-six dollars;
 - (2) One hundred two percent of the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit, as established in subsection 2, multiplied by the district's weighted student units, not to exceed the district's 2017-18 baseline weighted student units, plus any weighted student units in excess of the 2017-18 baseline weighted student units multiplied by ten thousand six hundred forty-six dollars; or
 - (3) The district's baseline funding as established in subsection 1 less the amount in paragraph 1, with the difference reduced by ~~forty-five~~forty percent and then the difference added to the amount determined in paragraph 1.
 - b. For the 2024-25 school year and each school year thereafter, the superintendent shall calculate state aid as the greater of:

- (1) The district's weighted student units multiplied by eleven thousand seventy-two dollars;
 - (2) One hundred two percent of the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit, as established in subsection 2, multiplied by the district's weighted student units, not to exceed the district's 2017-18 baseline weighted student units, plus any weighted student units in excess of the 2017-18 baseline weighted student units multiplied by eleven thousand seventy-two dollars; or
 - (3) The district's baseline funding as established in subsection 1 less the amount in paragraph 1, with the difference reduced by ~~sixty~~fifty-five percent for the 2024-25 school year and the reduction percentage increasing by fifteen percent each school year thereafter until the difference is reduced to zero, and then the difference added to the amount determined in paragraph 1.
4. After determining the product in accordance with subsection 3, the superintendent of public instruction shall:
- a. Subtract an amount equal to sixty mills multiplied by the taxable valuation of the school district, except the amount in dollars subtracted for purposes of this subdivision may not exceed the previous year's amount in dollars subtracted for purposes of this subdivision by more than twelve percent, adjusted pursuant to section 15.1-27-04.3; and
 - b. Subtract an amount equal to seventy-five percent of all revenue types listed in subdivisions c and d of subsection 1. Before determining the deduction for seventy-five percent of all revenue types, the superintendent of public instruction shall adjust revenues as follows:
 - (1) Tuition revenue shall be adjusted as follows:
 - (a) In addition to deducting tuition revenue received specifically for the operation of an educational program provided at a residential treatment facility, tuition revenue received for the provision of an adult farm management program, and tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid as directed each school year in paragraph 3 of subdivision c of subsection 1, the superintendent of public instruction also shall reduce the total tuition reported by the school district by the amount of tuition revenue received for the education of students not residing in the state and for which the state has not entered a cross-border education contract; and
 - (b) The superintendent of public instruction also shall reduce the total tuition reported by admitting school districts meeting the requirements of subdivision e of subsection 2 of section 15.1-29-12 by the amount of tuition revenue received for the education of students residing in an adjacent school district.
 - (2) After adjusting tuition revenue as provided in paragraph 1, the superintendent shall reduce all remaining revenues from all revenue types by the percentage of mills levied in 2022 by the school district for sinking and interest relative to the total mills levied in 2022 by the school district for all purposes.
5. The amount remaining after the computation required under subsection 4 is the amount of state aid to which a school district is entitled, subject to any other statutory requirements or limitations.
6. On or before June thirtieth of each year, the school board shall certify to the superintendent of public instruction the final average daily membership for the current school year.

7. For purposes of the calculation in subsection 4, each county auditor, in collaboration with the school districts, shall report the following to the superintendent of public instruction on an annual basis:
 - a. The amount of revenue received by each school district in the county during the previous school year for each type of revenue identified in subdivisions c and d of subsection 1;
 - b. The total number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school district for all purposes; and
 - c. The number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school district for sinking and interest fund purposes.

Baseline funding - Establishment - Determination of state aid. (Effective after June 30, 2025)

1. To determine the amount of state aid payable to each district, the superintendent of public instruction shall establish each district's baseline funding. A district's baseline funding consists of:
 - a. All state aid received by the district in accordance with chapter 15.1-27 during the 2018-19 school year;
 - b. An amount equal to the property tax deducted by the superintendent of public instruction to determine the 2018-19 state aid payment;
 - c. An amount equal to seventy-five percent of the revenue received by the school district during the 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types:
 - (1) Revenue reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08;
 - (2) Mineral revenue received by the school district through direct allocation from the state treasurer and not reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08;
 - (3) Tuition reported under code 1300 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08, with the exception of revenue received specifically for the operation of an educational program provided at a residential treatment facility, tuition received for the provision of an adult farm management program, and beginning in the 2025-26 school year, eighty-five percent of tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid, until the 2026-27 school year, and each school year thereafter, when all tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid must be excluded from the tuition calculation under this paragraph;
 - (4) Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on the distribution and transmission of electric power;
 - (5) Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on electricity generated from sources other than coal; and
 - (6) Revenue from the leasing of land acquired by the United States for which compensation is allocated to the state under 33 U.S.C. 701(c)(3); and

- d. An amount equal to the total revenue received by the school district during the 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types:
 - (1) Mobile home tax revenue;
 - (2) Telecommunications tax revenue; and
 - (3) Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes and state reimbursement of the homestead credit and disabled veterans credit.
 - e. Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, the superintendent shall reduce the baseline funding for any school district that becomes an elementary district pursuant to section 15.1-07-27 after the 2012-13 school year. The reduction must be proportional to the number of weighted student units in the grades that are offered through another school district relative to the total number of weighted student units the school district offered in the year before the school district became an elementary district. The reduced baseline funding applies to the calculation of state aid for the first school year in which the school district becomes an elementary district and for each year thereafter. For districts that become an elementary district prior to the 2020-21 school year, the superintendent shall use the reduced baseline funding to calculate state aid for the 2020-21 school year and for each year thereafter.
2. a. The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in subsection 1 by the district's 2017-18 weighted student units to determine the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit.
 - b. For any school district that becomes an elementary district pursuant to section 15.1-07-27 after the 2017-18 school year, the superintendent shall adjust the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit used to calculate state aid. The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in subsection 1 by the district's weighted student units after the school district becomes an elementary district to determine the district's adjusted baseline funding per weighted student unit. The superintendent shall use the district's adjusted baseline funding per weighted student unit in the calculation of state aid for the first school year in which the school district becomes an elementary district and for each year thereafter.
 - c. Beginning with the 2021-22 school year and for each school year thereafter, the superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit. Each year the superintendent shall calculate the amount by which the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit exceeds the payment per weighted student unit provided in subsection 3. ~~The~~For the 2023-24 school year the superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit by ~~fifteen~~forty percent of the amount by which the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit exceeds the payment per weighted student unit for the ~~2021-22~~2023-24 school year. For each year thereafter, the reduction percentage is increased by an additional fifteen percent. However, the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit, after the reduction, may not be less than the payment per weighted student unit provided in subsection 3.
3. a. For the 2023-24 school year, the superintendent shall calculate state aid as the greater of:
 - (1) The district's weighted student units multiplied by ten thousand six hundred forty-six dollars;
 - (2) One hundred two percent of the district's baseline funding per weighted student unit, as established in subsection 2, multiplied by the district's weighted student units, not to exceed the district's 2017-18 baseline weighted student units, plus any

levied in 2022 by the school district for sinking and interest relative to the total mills levied in 2022 by the school district for all purposes.

5. The amount remaining after the computation required under subsection 4 is the amount of state aid to which a school district is entitled, subject to any other statutory requirements or limitations.
6. On or before June thirtieth of each year, the school board shall certify to the superintendent of public instruction the final average daily membership for the current school year.
7. For purposes of the calculation in subsection 4, each county auditor, in collaboration with the school districts, shall report the following to the superintendent of public instruction on an annual basis:
 - a. The amount of revenue received by each school district in the county during the previous school year for each type of revenue identified in subdivisions c and d of subsection 1;
 - b. The total number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school district for all purposes; and
 - c. The number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school district for sinking and interest fund purposes.

SECTION 26. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-36-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-36-02. Coal development trust fund - Board of university and school lands - School construction projects - Unanticipated construction projects and emergency repairs - Loans.

1. Up to sixty million dollars from the coal development trust fund is available to the board of university and school lands for loans under this section.
2. To be eligible for a loan under this section, the school district must demonstrate a need based on an unanticipated construction project, an unanticipated replacement project, ~~or~~ an emergency repair, or a legislatively defined condition, and the board of a school district shall:
 - a. Obtain the approval of the superintendent of public instruction for the construction project under section 15.1-36-01; and
 - b. Submit to the superintendent of public instruction an application containing all information deemed necessary by the superintendent, including potential alternative sources or methods of financing the construction project.
3. The superintendent of public instruction shall consider each loan application in the order ~~the~~ application received approval under section 15.1-36-01.
4. If the superintendent of public instruction approves the loan, the board of university and school lands shall issue a loan from the coal development trust fund.
 - a. For a loan made under this ~~section~~ subsection:
 - ~~a-~~(1) The minimum loan amount is two hundred fifty thousand dollars and the maximum loan amount for which a school district may qualify is ~~tw~~five million dollars;
 - ~~b-~~(2) The term of the loan is twenty years, unless the board of the school district requests a shorter term in the written loan application; and
 - ~~c-~~(3) The interest rate of the loan may not exceed two percent per year.

- b. During the 2023-25 biennium, a loan including additional expenses due to unanticipated construction inflation is an allowable condition under subsection 2. For a loan made under this subsection which includes additional expenses due to unanticipated construction inflation:
- (1) The unanticipated construction inflation must have occurred for a construction project bid after January 1, 2021, and before June 30, 2024;
 - (2) The maximum loan amount for which a school district may qualify is five million dollars;
 - (3) The interest rate on the loan may not exceed two percent per year;
 - (4) The term of the loan is twenty years, unless the board of the school district requests a shorter term in the written loan application; and
 - (5) The school district may pledge revenues derived from its general fund levy authority or other sources of revenue authorized by law.
5. a. If a school district seeking a loan under this section received an allocation of the oil and gas gross production tax during the previous fiscal year in accordance with chapter 57-51, the board of the district shall provide to the board of university and school lands, and to the state treasurer, its evidence of indebtedness indicating that the loan originated under this section.
- b. If the evidence of indebtedness is payable solely from the school district's allocation of the oil and gas gross production tax in accordance with section 57-51-15, the loan does not constitute a general obligation of the school district and may not be considered a debt of the district.
- c. If a loan made to a school district is payable solely from the district's allocation of the oil and gas gross production tax in accordance with section 57-51-15, the terms of the loan must require that the state treasurer withhold the dollar amount or percentage specified in the loan agreement, from each of the district's oil and gas gross production tax allocations, in order to repay the principal and interest of the evidence of indebtedness. The state treasurer shall deposit the amount withheld into the fund from which the loan originated.
- d. Any evidence of indebtedness executed by the board of a school district under this subsection is a negotiable instrument and not subject to taxation by the state or any political subdivision of the state.
6. For purposes of this section, a "construction project" means the purchase, lease, erection, or improvement of any structure or facility by a school board, provided the acquisition or activity is within a school board's authority.

SECTION 27. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-36-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-36-02. Coal development trust fund - Board of university and school lands - School construction projects - Unanticipated construction projects and emergency repairs - Loans.

1. Up to sixty million dollars from the coal development trust fund is available to the board of university and school lands for loans under this section.
2. To be eligible for a loan under this section, the school district must demonstrate a need based on an unanticipated construction project, an unanticipated replacement project, an emergency repair, or a legislatively defined condition, and the board of a school district shall:

- a. Obtain the approval of the superintendent of public instruction for the construction project under section 15.1-36-01; and
 - b. Submit to the superintendent of public instruction an application containing all information deemed necessary by the superintendent, including potential alternative sources or methods of financing the construction project.
3. The superintendent of public instruction shall consider each loan application in the order the application received approval under section 15.1-36-01.
4. If the superintendent of public instruction approves the loan, the board of university and school lands shall issue a loan from the coal development trust fund.
- a- For a loan made under this ~~subsection~~section:
- ~~(1)~~a. The minimum loan amount is two hundred fifty thousand dollars and the maximum loan amount for which a school district may qualify is five million dollars;
 - ~~(2)~~b. The term of the loan is twenty years, unless the board of the school district requests a shorter term in the written loan application; and
 - ~~(3)~~c. The interest rate of the loan may not exceed two percent per year.
- b. ~~During the 2023-25 biennium, a loan including additional expenses due to unanticipated construction inflation is an allowable condition under subsection 2 of this section. For a loan made under this subsection which includes additional expenses due to unanticipated construction inflation:~~
- ~~(1) The unanticipated construction inflation must have occurred for a construction project bid after January 1, 2021, and before June 30, 2024;~~
 - ~~(2) The maximum loan amount for which a school district may qualify is five million dollars;~~
 - ~~(3) The interest rate on the loan may not exceed two percent per year;~~
 - ~~(4) The term of the loan is twenty years, unless the board of the school district requests a shorter term in the written loan application; and~~
 - ~~(5) The school district may pledge revenues derived from its general fund levy authority or other sources of revenue authorized by law.~~
5. a. If a school district seeking a loan under this section received an allocation of the oil and gas gross production tax during the previous fiscal year in accordance with chapter 57-51, the board of the district shall provide to the board of university and school lands, and to the state treasurer, its evidence of indebtedness indicating the loan originated under this section.
- b. If the evidence of indebtedness is payable solely from the school district's allocation of the oil and gas gross production tax in accordance with section 57-51-15, the loan does not constitute a general obligation of the school district and may not be considered a debt of the district.
- c. If a loan made to a school district is payable solely from the district's allocation of the oil and gas gross production tax in accordance with section 57-51-15, the terms of the loan must require the state treasurer withhold the dollar amount or percentage specified in the loan agreement, from each of the district's oil and gas gross production tax allocations, in order to repay the principal and interest of the evidence of indebtedness. The state treasurer shall deposit the amount withheld into the fund from which the loan originated.

d. Any evidence of indebtedness executed by the board of a school district under this subsection is a negotiable instrument and not subject to taxation by the state or any political subdivision of the state.

6. For purposes of this section, a "construction project" means the purchase, lease, erection, or improvement of any structure or facility by a school board, provided the acquisition or activity is within a school board's authority.

SECTION 28. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-36-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-36-04. Evidences of indebtedness.

~~The~~Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the board of a school district may issue and sell evidences of indebtedness under chapter 21-02 or 21-03 to finance the construction or improvement of a project approved under this chapter. The principal amount of the loan and the evidences of indebtedness to repay the loan may not exceed the loan amount for which the district is eligible under this chapter. Evidences of indebtedness issued under this chapter or chapter 21-03 constitute a general obligation of the school district.

SECTION 29. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of the new section to chapter 19-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created by section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2248, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. An individual is guilty of causing death or injury by distributing a controlled substance if the individual willfully ~~supplies another to deliver a controlled substance to an individual who consumes the controlled substance and that~~delivers a controlled substance, or supplies another to deliver or consume a controlled substance, and an individual dies or is injured from overdosing after consuming a portion of ~~thethat~~that controlled substance.

a. A violation of this section is a class A felony.

b. This section does not limit a conviction under chapter 12.1-16, but an individual may not be found guilty of this section and an offense under chapter 12.1-16 if the conduct arises out of the same course of conduct.

~~**SECTION 30. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 21-10-12 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 3 of Senate Bill No. 2330, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:~~

~~1. "Earnings" means an amount equal to seven~~eight~~ percent of the five-year average value of the legacy fund assets as reported by the state investment board using the value of the assets at the end of each fiscal year for the five-year period ending with the most recently completed even-numbered fiscal year.~~

SECTION 31. AMENDMENT. Section 24-02-37.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended by section 10 of House Bill No. 1012, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

SECTION 10. AMENDMENT. Section 24-02-37.3 of the North Dakota Century Code as created by section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2113, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

24-02-37.3. Flexible transportation fund - Budget section approval - Report.

There is created in the state treasury the flexible transportation fund. The fund consists of eligible federal or state funding and any contributed private funds.

1. The flexible transportation fund must be administered and expended by the director and may be used for the following:
 - a. Providing a match for federal funding obtained by the department of transportation.
 - b. State-funded road and bridge construction and maintenance, and transportation support costs including staffing, facilities, and operational expenditures on the state highway system.
 - c. State-funded road and bridge construction and maintenance activities within the state but off of the state highway system. The director shall establish the terms and provisions of the program.
2. All money derived from the investment of the flexible transportation fund or any portion of the fund, must be credited to the flexible transportation fund. The director shall monthly transmit all moneys collected and received under this chapter to the state treasurer to be transferred and credited to the flexible transportation fund.
3. The director must receive budget section approval for any project that utilizes more than ~~fifteen~~^{ten} million dollars from the fund except for projects that match federal or private funds and the amount utilized from the fund is fifty percent or less of total project costs. Any request considered by the budget section must comply with section 54-35-02.9.
4. The director shall allocate at least twenty-five percent of motor vehicle excise tax collections deposited in the flexible transportation fund pursuant to section 57-40.3-10 for non-oil-producing county and township road and bridge projects as follows:
 - a. The funds must be allocated by the department to counties for projects or grants for the benefit of counties and organized and unorganized townships;
 - b. The department shall establish criteria to distribute the funds;
 - c. The funds must be used for the maintenance and improvement of county and township paved and unpaved roads and bridges;
 - d. Priority must be given to projects that match federal funds and to projects that improve roadways that serve as local corridors;
 - e. An organized township is not eligible to receive funding if the township does not maintain any roadways or does not levy at least eighteen mills for general purposes; and
 - f. For purposes of this subsection, "non-oil-producing county" means a county that received no allocation of funding or a total allocation of less than five million dollars under subsection 2 of section 57-51-15 in the most recently completed even-numbered fiscal year before the start of each biennium.
5. The director shall provide periodic reports to the budget section regarding the status of the fund and projects receiving allocations from the fund.

~~SECTION 32. AMENDMENT. Section 48-10-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:~~

~~48-10-02. Capitol building fund to be administered by the capitol grounds planning commission - Continuing appropriation - Procedure for expenditure of certain funds.~~

- ~~1. The capitol grounds planning commission shall have general powers to superintend the administration of the capitol building fund, its interest and income fund, and its investments and properties. It may cause any lands now held in such funds to be sold at market value, direct the conversion of any securities now held by such funds to cash, approve expenditures from such funds subject to law and legislative appropriations, and to do all other things necessary to carry out the intent and purposes of this section. The board of university and school lands or its designee, on the commission's behalf, shall see to the investment and management of the capitol building fund and its interest and income fund and shall account to the commission concerning these funds at the commission's request.~~
- ~~2. Provided further, all moneys and other property in the capitol building fund, except as otherwise appropriated, are hereby dedicated and reserved to the exclusive purpose of the construction of an addition to the legislative wing of the state capitol building, and the capitol grounds planning commission shall take necessary steps to accumulate and conserve the money and property in the capitol building fund for such purpose.~~
- ~~3. The commission may, during any biennium, expend from the interest and income fund of the capitol building fund a sum not to exceed fifty percent of the unencumbered balance on the first day of any biennium, and such amount is hereby appropriated to the capitol grounds planning commission. The expenditure may be made, after consideration of the capitol grounds master plan, for projects or planning related to remodeling expenses but may not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars per biennium. The expenditure may only be made upon approval by two-thirds of the total membership of the commission. The expenditure must be made upon a voucher, or vouchers, prepared by the office of management and budget at the direction of the commission.~~

SECTION 33. AMENDMENT. Section 54-06-14.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-06-14.7. State leave sharing program - Rulemaking.

1. The human resource management services division of the office of management and budget shall establish a state leave sharing program for permanent employees of the state. The program must provide for a mechanism for state employees to donate accrued annual and sick leave to an employee who does not have available leave who is suffering from a severe, extreme, or life-threatening condition or who is caring for an immediate relative or household member who is suffering from a severe, extreme, or life-threatening condition.
2. A probationary, temporary, employee or contracted employee with a limited-term appointment is not eligible to participate in the leave sharing program. An employee may not use more than four months donated leave in any twelve-month period and an employee may not retain leave beyond the occurrence necessitating the leave.
3. The human resource management services division shall:
 - a. Require medical certification from a physician, physician assistant, psychologist, or advanced practice nurse practitioner verifying the severe, extreme, or life-threatening nature of the medical condition and the expected duration of the condition;
 - b. Track the amount of leave taken by permanent state employees under the program; and
 - c. Adopt rules in accordance with chapter 28-32 to implement this section.

SECTION 34. AMENDMENT. Section 54-21-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-21-19. Director to furnish supplies and maintain capitol, state offices, and executive mansion - Authority to charge for services.

The director of the office of management and budget shall provide all necessary fuel, electricity, insurance, janitorial, and other services necessary to maintain the state offices on the capitol grounds as well as all necessary furniture, fuel, electricity, express, freight, drayage, and all other necessary supplies for the executive mansion and the capitol grounds and shall make all necessary repairs. The purchases must be in accordance with chapter 54-44.4. The director shall charge an amount equal to the fair value of the office space and other services rendered to all departments that receive and expend moneys from other than the general fund executive branch agencies, except that for good cause the amounts charged may be waived by the director for a one-year period of time with the waiver subject to further annual renewals after proper application has been filed with the director.

SECTION 35. A new subsection to section 54-44-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

The office of management and budget shall establish a facility management operating fund to be used for the salary and operating expenses of the division of facility management. Rental fees collected pursuant to section 54-21-19 must be deposited in the fund. The director of the office of management and budget shall transfer any unobligated balance in the fund to the general fund at the end of each fiscal year.

SECTION 36. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-02.5 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 3 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-02.5. Newly elected and appointed state officials.

1. After December 31, 1999, but before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, an individual elected or appointed to a state office for the first time must, from and after the date that individual qualifies and takes office, be a participating member of the public employees retirement system unless that person makes an election at any time during the first six months after the date the person takes office to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan established under chapter 54-52.6.
2. After December 31, ~~2024~~2023, an individual elected or appointed to a state office for the first time, from and after the date that individual qualifies and takes office, must be a participating member of the defined contribution retirement plan established under chapter 54-52.6, unless at the time of election or appointment the individual is a participating or deferred member under this chapter, in which case the official remains a participating member under this chapter.
3. As used in this section, the phrase "for the first time" means an individual appointed, who, after December 31, 1999, does not hold office as an appointed official at the time of that individual's appointment.

SECTION 37. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-02.9 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 4 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-02.9. Participation by temporary employees.

1. Before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, within one hundred eighty days of beginning employment, a temporary employee may elect to participate in the public employees retirement system under this chapter and receive credit for service after enrollment. Monthly, the temporary employee shall pay to the fund an amount equal to fourteen and twelve hundredths percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary. The amount required to be paid by a temporary

employee increases by one percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary beginning with the monthly reporting period of January ~~2025~~2024.

2. If the temporary employee first enrolled:
 - a. Before January 1, 2020, in addition the temporary employee shall pay the required monthly contribution to the retiree health benefit fund established under section 54-52.1-03.2. This contribution must be recorded as a member contribution pursuant to section 54-52.1-03.2.
 - b. After December 31, 2019, the temporary employee shall pay to the fund an additional amount equal to one and fourteen hundredths percent times the temporary employee's present monthly salary.
3. A temporary employee who is a participating member under this chapter due to employment before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, who becomes a permanent employee after December 31, ~~2024~~2023, qualifies to participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under this chapter and receive credit for service after enrollment.
4. After December 31, ~~2024~~2023, and within one hundred eighty days of beginning employment, a temporary employee may elect to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under chapter 54-52.6.
5. An employer may not pay the temporary employee's contributions. A temporary employee may continue to participate as a temporary employee in the public employees retirement system until termination of employment or reclassification of the temporary employee as a permanent employee. A temporary employee may not purchase any additional credit, including additional credit under section 54-52-17.4 or past service under section 54-52-02.6.

SECTION 38. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-02.11 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 5 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-02.11. Participation requirements for nonstate elected officials.

1. Before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, eligible elected officials of participating counties, at their individual option, may enroll in the defined benefit plan within the first six months of their term.
2. After December 31, ~~2024~~2023, eligible elected officials of participating counties, at their individual option, may enroll in the defined contribution retirement plan under chapter 54-52.6 within the first six months of their term.

SECTION 39. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-02.12 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 6 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-02.12. Participation requirements for nonstate appointed officials.

1. Nonstate appointed officials of participating employers appointed on or after August 1, 1999, but before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, who meet the participation requirements of this chapter must be enrolled in the defined benefit plan effective within the first month of taking office.
2. After December 31, ~~2024~~2023, nonstate appointed officials of participating employers who meet the participation requirements must be enrolled in the defined contribution retirement plan under chapter 54-52.6 effective within the first month of taking office.

SECTION 40. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-02.15 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created in section 7 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-02.15. Public employees retirement system main plan - Closure to new hires - Multiple plan membership.

1. Under this section "eligible employee" means a permanent employee who:
 - a. Meets all the eligibility requirements set by this chapter;
 - b. Is at least eighteen years of age;
 - c. Becomes a participating member after December 31, ~~2024~~2023; and
 - d. Is not eligible to participate in the law enforcement plan, judges' plan, highway patrol plan, teachers' fund for retirement plan, or alternative retirement program established under section 15-10-17 for university system employees.
2. Effective January 1, ~~2025~~2024, the public employees retirement system defined benefit main plan maintained for employees is closed to new eligible employees. However, an employee who becomes a participating or deferred member under this chapter before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, remains in the defined benefit retirement plan under this chapter, regardless of being rehired after December 31, ~~2024~~2023.
3. Except as otherwise provided under this section, effective January 1, ~~2025~~2024, an eligible employee who begins employment with an employer shall participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under chapter 54-52.6 as provided under section 54-52.6-02.1.
4. This section does not impact an employee to the extent the employee is a participating member in one or more of the following enumerated plans: law enforcement plan, judges' plan, highway patrol plan, teachers' fund for retirement plan, or alternative retirement program established under section 15-10-17 for university system employees.
 - a. A participating or deferred member in the defined contribution retirement plan under chapter 54-52.6 who becomes eligible to participate in a plan enumerated under this subsection is eligible to participate in the retirement plan enumerated under this subsection.
 - b. A participating member of a retirement plan enumerated under this subsection who becomes an eligible employee is not eligible to participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under this chapter but instead participates in the defined contribution retirement plan under chapter 54-52.6. However, this subdivision does not apply to an individual who before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, is a participating or a deferred member under this chapter, as that individual continues to participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under this chapter.
5. The board shall adopt rules to implement this section.

SECTION 41. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52-03. Governing authority.

1. A state agency is hereby created to constitute the governing authority of the system to consist of a board of ~~nine~~eleven individuals known as the retirement board. No more than one elected member of the board may be in the employ of a single department, institution, or agency of the state or in the employ of a political subdivision. An employee of the public employees retirement system or the state retirement and investment office may not serve on the board.
- ~~4.~~ Two

- ~~2.~~ Four members of the legislative assembly must be appointed by the chairman of the legislative management to serve on the board.
 - ~~a.~~ If the same political party has the greatest number of members in both the house and senate, one member must be from that majority party and one member from the political party with the next greatest number of members in the house and senate.
 - ~~b.~~ If the same political party does not have the greatest number of members in both the house and senate, one member must be from the majority party in the house and one member must be from the majority party in the senate.
- ~~2.~~ One member The majority leader of the house of representatives shall appoint two members of the house of representatives and the majority leader of the senate shall appoint two members of the senate. The members appointed under this subsection shall serve a term of two years.
- ~~3.~~ Four members of the board must be appointed by the governor to serve a term of five years. ~~The~~Each appointee under this subsection must be a North Dakota citizen who is not a state or political subdivision employee and who ~~by experience~~ is familiar with ~~money management~~retirement and employee benefit plans. The governor shall appoint one citizen member ~~is to serve as~~ chairman of the board.
- ~~3.~~ One member of the board must be appointed by the attorney general from the attorney general's legal staff and shall serve a term of five years.
- ~~4.~~ The state health officer appointed under section 23-01-05 or the state health officer's designee is a member of the board.
- ~~5.4.~~ Three board members must be elected by and from among the active participating members, members of the retirement plan established under chapter 54-52.6, members of the retirement plan established under chapter 39-03.1, and members of the job service North Dakota retirement plan. Employees who have terminated their employment for whatever reason are not eligible to serve as elected members of the board under this subsection. Board members must be elected to a five-year term pursuant to an election called by the board. Notice of board elections must be given to all active participating members. The time spent in performing duties as a board member may not be charged against any employee's accumulated annual or any other type of leave.
- ~~6.~~ One board member must be elected by and from among those individuals who are receiving retirement benefits under this chapter. The board shall call the election and must give prior notice of the election to the individuals eligible to participate in the election pursuant to this subsection. The board member shall serve a term of five years.
- ~~7.5.~~ The members of the board are entitled to receive one hundred forty-eight dollars per day compensation and necessary mileage and travel expenses as provided in sections 44-08-04 and 54-06-09. This is in addition to any other pay or allowance due the chairman or a member, plus an allowance for expenses they may incur through service on the board.
- ~~8.6.~~ A board member shall serve a five-year term and until the board member's successor qualifies. Each board member is entitled to one vote, and ~~ninesix~~ five ~~of the nineeleven~~ six board members constitute a quorum. ~~Five~~Six votes are necessary for resolution or action by the board at any meeting.

SECTION 42. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 54-52-06.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 1 of House Bill No. 1309, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. The employer of a peace officer employed by the ~~bureau of criminal investigation~~state or national guard security officer shall contribute an amount determined by the board to be actuarially required to support the level of benefits specified in section 54-52-17. The employer's contribution must be paid from funds appropriated for salary or from any other funds available for such purposes. If the peace officer's or security officer's assessment is paid by the employer under subsection 3 of section 54-52-05, the employer shall contribute, in addition, an amount equal to the required peace officer's or security officer's assessment.

SECTION 43. AMENDMENT. Subsection 4 of section 54-52-17 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 4 of House Bill No. 1183, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

4. The board shall calculate retirement benefits as follows:
 - a. Normal retirement benefits for all retirees, except supreme and district court judges, peace officers employed by the bureau of criminal investigation, and other peace officers employed by the state, reaching normal retirement date equal an annual amount, payable monthly, comprised of a service benefit and a prior service benefit, as defined in this chapter, which is determined as follows:
 - (1) For members first enrolled:
 - (a) Before January 1, 2020, service benefit equals two percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of service employment.
 - (b) After December 31, 2019, service benefit equals one and seventy-five hundredths percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of service employment.
 - (2) Prior service benefit equals two percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of prior service employment.
 - b. Normal retirement benefits for all supreme and district court judges under the public employees retirement system reaching normal retirement date equal an annual amount, payable monthly, comprised of a benefit as defined in this chapter, determined as follows:
 - (1) Benefits must be calculated from the time of appointment or election to the bench and must equal three and one-half percent of final average salary multiplied by the first ten years of judicial service, two and eighty hundredths percent of final average salary multiplied by the second ten years of judicial service, and one and one-fourth percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of judicial service exceeding twenty years.
 - (2) Service benefits must include, in addition, an amount equal to the percent specified in subdivision a of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of nonjudicial employee service and employment.
 - c. Normal retirement benefits for a peace officer employed by the bureau of criminal investigation reaching the normal retirement date equals an annual amount, payable monthly, comprised of a service benefit and a prior service benefit determined as follows:
 - (1) ~~For members first enrolled:~~
 - (a) ~~Before January 1, 2020, service benefit equals two percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of service employment.~~

- ~~(b) After December 31, 2019, service benefit equals one and seventy-five hundredths percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of service employment. The first twenty years of credited service multiplied by three percent of final average salary.~~
 - (2) ~~Prior service benefit equals two percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of prior service employment. For years in excess of twenty years of credited service multiplied by one and seventy-five hundredths percent of final average salary.~~
- d. Normal retirement benefits for a peace officer employed by the state, other than by the bureau of criminal investigation, reaching the normal retirement date equals an annual amount, payable monthly, comprised of a service benefit and a prior service benefit determined as follows:
 - (1) For members first enrolled:
 - (a) Before January 1, 2020, service benefit equals two percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of service employment.
 - (b) After December 31, 2019, service benefit equals one and seventy-five hundredths percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of service employment.
 - (2) Prior service benefit equals two percent of final average salary multiplied by the number of years of prior service employment.
- e. Postponed retirement benefits are calculated as for single life benefits for those members who retired on or after July 1, 1977.
- f. Early retirement benefits are calculated as for single life benefits accrued to the date of termination of employment, but must be actuarially reduced to account for benefit payments beginning before the normal retirement date, as determined under subsection 3. Except for a national guard security officer or firefighter, a firefighter, peace officer, or correctional officer employed by a political subdivision, a peace officer employed by the state, or a supreme court or district court judge, early retirement benefits for members first enrolled after December 31, 2015, are calculated for single life benefits accrued to the date of termination of employment, but must be reduced by fixed rate of eight percent per year to account for benefit payments beginning before the normal retirement date. A retiree, other than a supreme or district court judge, is eligible for early retirement benefits only after having completed three years of eligible employment. A supreme or district court judge retiree is eligible for early retirement benefits only after having completed five years of eligible employment.
- g. Except for supreme and district court judges, disability retirement benefits are twenty-five percent of the member's final average salary. Disability retirement benefits for supreme and district court judges are seventy percent of final average salary reduced by the member's primary social security benefits and by any workforce safety and insurance benefits paid. The minimum monthly disability retirement benefit under this section is one hundred dollars.

SECTION 44. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52.2-09 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created in section 13 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52.2-09. Employer match for members of defined contribution retirement plan.

An employee who first participated in the defined contribution retirement plan under chapter 54-52.6 after December 31, ~~2024~~2023, who elects to contribute less than the optional three percent of wages or salary under subdivision b of subsection 1 of section 54-52.6-09, who participates in the deferred compensation program under this chapter, qualifies for employer matching of contributions made under

this section. The employee may elect to contribute an amount of wages or salary which does not exceed any remaining balance of the optional three percent contribution and the employer shall match this contribution. This section does not limit the ability of an employee to contribute unmatched wages or salary under this chapter, subject to federal contribution limitations.

SECTION 45. AMENDMENT. Subsection 3 of section 54-52.6-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 14 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

3. "Eligible employee", for employees who become participating members after December 31, ~~2024~~2023, has the same meaning as provided under section 54-52-02.15. For employees who elected to join the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, the term includes a permanent state employee, except an employee of the judicial branch or an employee of the board of higher education and state institutions under the jurisdiction of the board of higher education, who is at least eighteen years of age and who is in a position not classified by the North Dakota human resource management services.

SECTION 46. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52.6-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 15 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52.6-02. Election through December 31, ~~2024~~2023.

1. The board shall provide an opportunity for each eligible employee who is a member of the public employees retirement system on September 30, 2001, and who has not made a written election under this section to transfer to the defined contribution retirement plan before October 1, 2001, to elect in writing to terminate membership in the public employees retirement system and elect to become a participating member under this chapter. Except as provided in section 54-52.6-03, an election made by an eligible employee under this section is irrevocable. The board shall accept written elections under this section from eligible employees during the period beginning on July 1, 1999, and ending 12:01 a.m. December 14, 2001. An eligible employee who does not make a written election or who does not file the election during the period specified in this section continues to be a member of the public employees retirement system. An eligible employee who makes and files a written election under this section ceases to be a member of the public employees retirement system effective twelve midnight December 31, 2001; becomes a participating member in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter effective 12:01 a.m. January 1, 2002; and waives all of that person's rights to a pension, annuity, retirement allowance, insurance benefit, or any other benefit under the public employees retirement system effective December 31, 2001. This section does not affect an individual's right to health benefits or retiree health benefits under chapter 54-52.1. An eligible employee who is first employed and entered upon the payroll of that person's employer after September 30, 2001, and before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, may make an election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan established under this chapter at any time during the first six months after the date of employment. If the board, in its sole discretion, determines that the employee was not adequately notified of the employee's option to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan, the board may provide the employee a reasonable time within which to make that election, which may extend beyond the original six-month decision window.
2. If an individual who is a deferred member of the public employees retirement system on September 30, 2001, is re-employed before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, and by virtue of that employment is again eligible for membership in the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52, the individual may elect in writing to remain a member of the public employees retirement system or if eligible to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan established under this chapter to terminate membership in the public employees retirement system and become a participating member in the defined contribution retirement plan

established under this chapter. An election made by a deferred member under this section is irrevocable. The board shall accept written elections under this section from a deferred member during the period beginning on the date of the individual's re-employment and ending upon the expiration of six months after the date of that re-employment. If the board, in its sole discretion, determines that the employee was not adequately notified of the employee's option to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan, the board may provide the employee a reasonable time within which to make that election, which may extend beyond the original six-month decision window. A deferred member who makes and files a written election to remain a member of the public employees retirement system retains all rights and is subject to all conditions as a member of that retirement system. A deferred member who does not make a written election or who does not file the election during the period specified in this section continues to be a member of the public employees retirement system. A deferred member who makes and files a written election to terminate membership in the public employees retirement system ceases to be a member of the public employees retirement system effective on the last day of the payroll period that includes the date of the election; becomes a participating member in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter effective the first day of the payroll immediately following the date of the election; and waives all of that person's rights to a pension, an annuity, a retirement allowance, insurance benefit, or any other benefit under the public employees retirement system effective the last day of the payroll that includes the date of the election. This section does not affect any right to health benefits or retiree health benefits to which the deferred member may otherwise be entitled.

3. An eligible employee who elects under this section to participate in the retirement plan established under this chapter must remain a participant even if that employee returns to the classified service or becomes employed by a political subdivision that participates in the public employees retirement system. The contribution amount must be as provided in this chapter, regardless of the position in which the employee is employed. Notwithstanding the irrevocability provisions of this chapter, if a member who elects to participate in the retirement plan established under this chapter becomes a supreme or district court judge, becomes a member of the highway patrol, becomes employed in a position subject to teachers' fund for retirement membership, or becomes an employee of the board of higher education or state institution under the jurisdiction of the board of higher education who is eligible to participate in an alternative retirement program established under subsection 6 of section 15-10-17, the member's status as a member of the defined contribution retirement plan is suspended, and the member becomes a new member of the retirement plan for which that member's new position is eligible. The member's account balance remains in the defined contribution retirement plan, but no new contributions may be made to that account. The member's service credit and salary history that were forfeited as a result of the member's transfer to the defined contribution retirement plan remain forfeited, and service credit accumulation in the new retirement plan begins from the first day of employment in the new position. If the member later returns to employment that is eligible for the defined contribution retirement plan, the member's suspension must be terminated, the member again becomes a member of the defined contribution retirement plan, and the member's account resumes accepting contributions. At the member's option, and pursuant to rules adopted by the board, the member may transfer any available balance as determined by the provisions of the alternate retirement plan into the member's account under this chapter.
4. After consultation with its actuary, the board shall determine the method by which a participating member or deferred member may make a written election under this section. If the participating member or deferred member is married at the time of the election, the election is not effective unless the election is signed by the individual's spouse. However, the board may waive this requirement if the spouse's signature cannot be obtained because of extenuating circumstances.
5. If the board receives notification from the internal revenue service that this section or any portion of this section will cause the public employees retirement system or the retirement plan

established under this chapter to be disqualified for tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code, then the portion that will cause the disqualification does not apply.

6. A participating member under this section who becomes a temporary employee may still participate in the defined contribution retirement plan upon filing an election with the board within one hundred eighty days of transferring to temporary employee status. The participating member may not become a member of the defined benefit plan as a temporary employee.
 - a. The temporary employee electing to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan shall pay into the plan as provided under section 54-52.6-09.6.
 - b. An employer may not pay the temporary employee's contributions.
 - c. A temporary employee may continue to participate as a temporary employee until termination of employment or reclassification of the temporary employee as a permanent employee.
7. A former participating member under this section who has accepted a retirement distribution pursuant to section 54-52.6-13 and who subsequently becomes employed by an entity different from the employer with which the member was employed at the time the member retired but which does participate in any state-sponsored retirement plan may, before re-enrolling in the defined contribution retirement plan, elect to permanently waive future participation in the defined contribution retirement plan, whatever plan in which the new employing entity participates, and the retiree health program and maintain that member's retirement status. Neither the member nor the employer are required to make any future retirement contributions on behalf of that employee.
8. After December 31, ~~2024~~2023, an eligible employee is no longer allowed to elect participation under this section.

SECTION 47. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 54-52.6-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created by section 16 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. Except as otherwise provided under section 54-52-02.5 or 54-52-02.15 or this chapter, effective January 1, ~~2025~~2024, an eligible employee who is first enrolled shall participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter.

SECTION 48. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52.6-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created by section 17 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52.6-02.2. Election after December 31, ~~2024~~2023 - Additional employer contribution.

1. As used in this section, "eligible employee" means a permanent state employee who on December 31, ~~2024~~2023, is a participating member of the public employees retirement system main system plan under chapter 54-42, who has been a participating member under chapter 54-52 for no more than five years, and who is at least eighteen years of age.
2. The board shall provide a three-month election period, from January 1, ~~2025~~2024, through March 31, ~~2025~~2024, for an eligible employee to transfer to the defined contribution plan under this chapter pursuant to the rules and policies adopted by the board.
 - a. An election under this section made by a member of the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52 to transfer to the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter is irrevocable.
 - b. For an eligible employee who elects to transfer from the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52 to the defined contribution retirement plan under this

chapter, the board shall transfer a lump sum amount from the public employees retirement system fund to the member's account in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter. However, if the eligible employee terminates employment before receiving the lump sum transfer under this section, the election made is ineffective and the eligible employee remains a member of the public employees retirement system under chapter 54-52 and retains all the rights and privileges under that chapter.

- c. The board shall calculate the lump sum amount to be transferred based on the actuarial present value of the eligible employee's accumulated benefit obligation under the public employees retirement system based on the assumption the eligible employee will retire under the earlier applicable normal retirement age, plus interest from January 1, ~~2025~~2024, to the date of transfer, at the rate of one-half of one percent less than the actuarial interest assumption at the time of the election.
 - d. This section does not affect an eligible individual's right to health benefits under chapter 54-52.1.
3. The state employer of an eligible employee who elects under this section to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under this chapter shall pay an additional annual contribution of three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars for up to three years. Under this subsection, the employer shall pay the additional contribution each year the eligible employee continues permanent employment with the state, beginning January ~~2026~~2025, and extending no further than January ~~2028~~2027.
 4. If the board receives notification from the internal revenue service that this section or any portion of this section will cause the public employees retirement system or the retirement plan established under this chapter to be disqualified for tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code, that portion that will cause the disqualification does not apply.

SECTION 49. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 54-52.6-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended by section 18 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. The board shall calculate the amount to be transferred for persons employed after September 30, 2001, and before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, using only the formula contained in subdivision b of subsection 1.

SECTION 50. AMENDMENT. Section 54-52.6-09 of the North Dakota Century Code, as amended in section 22 of House Bill No. 1040, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-52.6-09. Contributions - Penalty.

1.
 - a. A participating member who first joined the defined contribution retirement plan before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, and an employee who elects to participate in the defined contribution plan under section 54-52.6-02.2, shall contribute monthly seven percent of the monthly salary or wage paid to the participant.
 - b. A participating member who first joined the defined contribution retirement plan after December 31, ~~2024~~2023, except for an employee who elects to participate in the defined contribution plan under section 54-52.6-02.2, shall contribute monthly four percent of the monthly salary or wage paid to the participant. In addition, the participating member may elect to contribute monthly up to an additional three percent of the monthly salary or wage paid to the participant.
 - c. This assessment must be deducted from the participant's salary in equal monthly installments commencing with the first month of participation in the defined contribution retirement plan established under this chapter.

2. a. For a participating member who first joined the defined contribution retirement plan before January 1, ~~2025~~2024, and for an employee who elects to participate in the defined contribution plan under section 54-52.6-02.2, the employer shall contribute an amount equal to seven and twelve-hundredths percent of the monthly salary or wage of the participating member.
 - b. For a participating member who first joined the defined contribution retirement plan after December 31, ~~2024~~2023, except for an employee who elects to participate in the defined contribution plan under section 54-52.6-02.2, the employer shall contribute an amount equal to four and twelve-hundredths percent of the monthly salary or wage of a participating member, plus up to an additional three percent as an employer matching contribution calculated based on the participating member's election under subdivision b of subsection 1.
 - c. For a participating member first enrolled after December 31, 2019, the employer contribution includes an additional increase of one and fourteen-hundredths percent.
 - d. If the employee's contribution is paid by the employer under subsection 3, the employer shall contribute, in addition, an amount equal to the required employee's contribution. Monthly, the employer shall pay such contribution into the participating member's account from the employer's funds appropriated for payroll and salary or any other funds available for such purposes.
 - e. If the employer fails to pay the contributions monthly, or fails to otherwise comply with the board's established wage reporting or payroll reporting process requirements, the employer is subject to a civil penalty of fifty dollars and, as interest, one percent of the amount due for each month of delay or fraction of a month after the payment became due. In lieu of assessing a civil penalty or one percent per month, or both, interest at the actuarial rate of return may be assessed for each month the contributions are delinquent. If contributions are paid within ninety days of the date the contributions became due, penalty and interest to be paid on delinquent contributions may be waived.
3. Each employer, at its option, may pay the employee contributions required by this section for all compensation earned after December 31, 1999. The amount paid must be paid by the employer in lieu of contributions by the employee. If the employer decides not to pay the contributions, the amount that would have been paid will continue to be deducted from the employee's compensation. If contributions are paid by the employer, they must be treated as employer contributions in determining tax treatment under this code and the federal Internal Revenue Code. Contributions paid by the employer may not be included as gross income of the employee in determining tax treatment under this code and the federal Internal Revenue Code until they are distributed or made available. The employer shall pay these employee contributions from the same source of funds used in paying compensation to the employee. The employer shall pay these contributions by effecting an equal cash reduction in the gross salary of the employee or by an offset against future salary increases or by a combination of a reduction in gross salary and offset against future salary increases. Employee contributions paid by the employer must be treated for the purposes of this chapter in the same manner and to the same extent as employee contributions made before the date on which employee contributions were assumed by the employer. An employer shall exercise its option under this subsection by reporting its choice to the board in writing.

SECTION 51. AMENDMENT. Section 54-63.1-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

54-63.1-04. Clean sustainable energy authority - Duties - Report.

1. The authority shall make recommendations to the commission for program guidelines, including eligibility criteria for entities to receive funding under this chapter.

2. The nonvoting technical advisors shall develop a process to review and evaluate projects to determine the technical merits and feasibility of any application, including potential benefits of the development of low-emission technology, the expansion of the development of the state's natural resources or energy production, and the contribution to the economic diversity in the state.
3. The authority may develop a loan program or a loan guarantee program under the clean sustainable energy fund. The Bank of North Dakota shall administer the loan program or loan guarantee program. The interest rate of a loan under this program may not exceed two percent per year. The maximum term of a loan under this section must be approved by the commission based on a recommendation from the authority. The Bank shall review applications for loans or loan guarantees and shall consider the business plan, financial statements, and other information necessary to evaluate the application. To be eligible for a loan or loan guarantee, an entity shall agree to provide the Bank of North Dakota with information as requested. The Bank of North Dakota may develop policies for loan participation with local financial institutions.
4. The authority shall make recommendations to the commission for grant awards, loan approvals, or other financial assistance to provide funding to support research, development, and technological advancements for the large scale development and commercialization of projects, processes, activities, and technologies that reduce environmental impacts and increase sustainability of energy production and delivery in accordance with this chapter. Any projects, processes, activities, and technologies selected by the commission for funding must have been recommended by the authority, must demonstrate feasibility based on a technical review conducted by the nonvoting technical advisors of the authority, must have other sources of financial support, and must achieve the priorities and purposes of the program. At the request of the authority, the Bank of North Dakota shall provide a recommendation regarding the economic feasibility of a project, process, activity, or technology under consideration by the authority. The Bank shall review the business plan, financial statements, and other information necessary to provide a recommendation.
5. The authority shall develop a fertilizer development incentive program, including guidelines to provide loan forgiveness. Funding for the fertilizer development incentive program under this subsection is limited to one hundred twenty-five million dollars.
 - a. To be eligible for the fertilizer development incentive program:
 - (1) The fertilizer production facility must be located within the state;
 - (2) The owner of the fertilizer production facility must be an entity domiciled in the United States or Canada;
 - (3) The owner must borrow money under a program administered by the Bank of North Dakota; and
 - (4) The fertilizer production facility must use hydrogen produced by the electrolysis of water.
 - b. Upon completion of the construction of the fertilizer production facility, the authority shall forgive the loan and shall use fertilizer development incentive funding to repay any outstanding amount borrowed, as certified by the Bank. The authority shall request an appropriation from the strategic investment and improvements fund or other funding sources to provide fertilizer development incentive funding to repay any outstanding amount borrowed.
6. The authority may consult with any other state agency necessary to carry out the purposes under this chapter.

~~6-7.~~ Each biennium, the authority shall provide a written report to the legislative management regarding its activities and the program's financial impact on state revenues and the state's economy.

SECTION 52. AMENDMENT. The new subsection to section 61-16.1-11 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created by section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2372, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:

All districts within the Red River, James River, Mouse River, Missouri River, and Devils Lake drainage basins shall, by agreement, form and remain a member of a joint water resource board relative to the district's respective drainage basin. All agreements and subsequent amendments must be filed with the department of water resources. Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the board of county commissioners of the member districts in the Red River, James River, Mouse River, Missouri River, and Devils Lake drainage basins shall may approve a levy of tax not to exceed two mills upon the taxable valuation of the real property within each joint board's respective drainage basin.

~~**SECTION 53. AMENDMENT.** Section 2 of House Bill No. 1438, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is amended and reenacted as follows:~~

~~**SECTION 2. RETROACTIVE EFFECTIVE DATE - APPLICATION.** This Act is retroactively effective and applies for taxable years beginning after December 31, 20222021. The limitation on time for filing an abatement claim under section 57-23-04 does not apply to refunds of taxes paid or cancellation of taxes levied for taxable year 2022 on property exempt from taxation under this Act. The board of county commissioners shall direct refund of taxes paid or cancellation of taxes levied on property exempt from taxation under this Act.~~

SECTION 54. REPEAL. Section 5 of Senate Bill No. 2020, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly, is repealed.

SECTION 55. BANK OF NORTH DAKOTA LINE OF CREDIT - WATER INFRASTRUCTURE REVOLVING LOAN FUND - TRANSFER. The Bank of North Dakota shall extend a line of credit not to exceed \$100,000,000 to the department of water resources to be transferred to the water infrastructure revolving loan fund as requested by the director of the department of water resources to provide local cost-share loans for projects approved by the state water commission pursuant to section 6-09-49.2. The interest rate associated with the line of credit must be the prevailing interest rate charged to North Dakota government entities. The department of water resources shall request a deficiency appropriation from the sixty-ninth legislative assembly to repay the line of credit.

SECTION 56. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM - MAIN SYSTEM DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN INVESTMENTS. During the 2023-25 biennium, the retirement board may not reduce the actuarial rate of return assumption for the public employees retirement system main system defined benefit plan below six and one-half percent.

SECTION 57. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM - RETIREMENT PLAN TRANSITION EDUCATION. During the 2023-25 biennium, the public employees retirement system shall conduct an informational campaign to educate current and prospective state employees of the transition from the defined benefit retirement plan to the defined contribution retirement plan.

SECTION 58. EXEMPTION - INFRASTRUCTURE REVOLVING LOAN FUND. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a park district may apply for a loan from the infrastructure revolving loan fund under section 6-09-49, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025, to refinance an outstanding loan for a project completed after March 31, 2022, and to pay the outstanding balance of any special assessments associated with the project.

SECTION 59. EXEMPTION - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS COMMITTEE. Sections 36 through 50 and sections 56 and 57 of this Act are exempt from the requirements of section 54-35-02.4.

SECTION 60. EXEMPTION - FISCAL MANAGEMENT. The amount appropriated for the fiscal management division, as contained in section 1 of chapter 15 of the 2021 Session Laws is not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11. Any unexpended funds from this appropriation are available for continued development and operating costs of the statewide systems, including accounting, management, and payroll, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 61. EXEMPTION - UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS. The following appropriations are not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11 and may be continued into the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025:

1. The sum of \$500,000 appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund in section 1 and identified in section 2 of chapter 40 of the 2019 Session Laws and continued into the 2021-23 biennium pursuant to section 42 of chapter 15 of the 2021 Session Laws for an assessment of state lands and facilities.
2. The sum of \$350,000 appropriated from the capitol building fund in section 1 and identified in section 2 of chapter 15 of the 2021 Session Laws for a facility consolidation study.

SECTION 62. LEGACY FUND EARNINGS - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT. Each biennium, the state retirement and investment office shall provide a report including the amount of legacy fund earnings above the percent of market value that would have been transferred to the legacy earnings fund had Senate Bill No. 2330 not been passed by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly to the legislative management.

SECTION 63. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - STATE FIRE AND TORNADO FUND AND STATE BONDING FUND ADMINISTRATION. During the 2023-24 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying, in collaboration with the insurance commissioner and the director of the office of management and budget, the feasibility and desirability of changing administration of the state fire and tornado fund and state bonding fund from the insurance commissioner to the director of the office of management and budget. The study must include an analysis of the statutory changes necessary to accomplish the change in administration and other statutory changes necessary to facilitate the office of management and budget's administration of these funds. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 64. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF STATE FACILITIES.

1. During the 2023-24 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the policies and procedures of state agencies, excluding institutions under the control of the state board of higher education, for managing, maintaining, and leasing state facilities.
2. The study must include consideration of:
 - a. The most efficient and cost-effective organizational structure for managing, maintaining, and leasing state facilities, including a comparison of allocating funding and full-time equivalent positions to various agencies and centralizing funding and full-time equivalent positions under one agency.
 - b. The costs and benefits of leasing or owning state facilities.
 - c. The appropriate use of contracts for service and full-time equivalent positions for custodial services, mechanical services, snow removal, lawn care, and maintenance.
3. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 65. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAMS. During the 2023-24 interim, the legislative management shall study the state's guardianship programs. The study

must include consideration of the existing structure for the programs under the office of management and budget, judicial branch, and department of health and human services; the feasibility of consolidating the programs under one agency; and an appropriate level of funding for the programs. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

SECTION 66. CONTINGENT EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 36 through 40 and sections 44 through 50 of this Act become effective on January 1, 2024, if before that date the retirement board certifies to the legislative council that the public employees retirement system is prepared to close the main system defined benefit retirement plan on December 31, 2023, and to open the new defined contribution retirement plan on January 1, 2024.

SECTION 67. EFFECTIVE DATE. Section 41 of this Act becomes effective on June 1, 2023. Section 27 of this Act becomes effective on July 1, 2024.

SECTION 68. EMERGENCY. The following are declared to be an emergency measure:

1. The targeted market equity pool line item in section 1 of this Act and section 20 of this Act;
2. The deferred maintenance funding pool line item in section 1 of this Act and section 15 of this Act;
3. Sections 4, 5, 30, and 41 of this Act;
4. Section 4 of Senate Bill No. 2012, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly; and
5. Senate Bill No. 2024, as approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly.

Tammy Miller
President of the Senate
Sharon Morgan
Secretary of the Senate

Dennis E. Johnson
Speaker of the House
Buell J. Reich
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2015 and that two-thirds of the members-elect of the Senate voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 38 Nays 9 Absent 0

Tammy Miller Sharon Morgan
President of the Senate Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that two-thirds of the members-elect of the House of Representatives voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 67 Nays 14 Absent 13

Dennis E. Johnson Buell J. Reich
Speaker of the House Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 3:10 AM on April 30, 2023.

Approved at 5:07 PM on May 9, 2023.

Doug Burgum
Governor

Filed in this office this 10 day of May, 2023,

at 8:32 o'clock A M.

Michael Howe
Secretary of State