19.1078.02041

Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1521

Introduced by

Representative Pollert

Senator Wardner

1	A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 16.1-08.1 and chapter 54-66 of
2	the North Dakota Century Code, relating to reporting campaign contributions and expenditures,
3	restrictions on public officials and lobbyists, investigations of ethics violations, and implementing
4	requirements of article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota; to amend and reenact
5	sections 16.1-08.1-01, subsection 4 of section 16.1-08.1-02.1, sections 16.1-08.1-02.3,
6	16.1-08.1-02.4, 16.1-08.1-03.1 <u>16.1-08.1-03.7,</u> 16.1-08.1-04.1, <u>16.1-08.1-06.2,</u> 28-32-01,
7	28-32-02, 28-32-03, 28-32-06, 28-32-07, 28-32-08, 28-32-08.1, 28-32-08.2, 28-32-09, 28-32-10,
8	28-32-11, 28-32-12, 28-32-14, 28-32-15, 28-32-16, 28-32-17, 28-32-18, and 28-32-18.1,
9	subsections 2 and 4 of section 28-32-19, and sections 28-32-27, 28-32-47, 28-32-48, and
10	28-32-49 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to rulemaking procedures, disqualification-
11	of agency heads in quasi-judicial proceedings, implementing article XIV of the Constitution of
12	North Dakota, and requirements for the North Dakota ethics commission; to provide for a
13	legislative management study; to provide for a penalty; to provide an appropriation; to provide
14	an effective date; to provide an expiration date; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

- SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 16.1-08.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:
 - 16.1-08.1-01. Definitions.
 - As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 1. "Adjusted for inflation" means adjusted on January first of each year by the change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (all items, United States city average), as identified by the secretary of state.
 - 2. "Affiliate" means an organization that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another organization. For purposes of this definition, control means the

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1		possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the					
2		management and policies of an organization, whether through the ownership of voting					
3		securities, by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement					
4		services, or otherwise. Control is presumed to exist if an organization, directly or					
5		indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing					
6		fifty percent or more of the voting securities of any other organization.					
7	2. <u>3.</u>	"Association" means any club, association, union, brotherhood, fraternity, organization,					
8		or group of any kind of two or more persons, including labor unions, trade					
9		associations, professional associations, or governmental associations, which is united					
10		for any purpose, business, or object and which assesses any dues, membership fees,					
11		or license fees in any amount, or which maintains a treasury fund in any amount. The					
12		term does not include corporations, cooperative corporations, limited liability					
13		companies, political committees, or political parties.					
14	3. <u>4.</u>	"Candidate" means an individual who seeks nomination for election or election to					
15		public office, and includes:					
16		a. An individual holding public office;					
17		b. An individual who has publicly declared that individual's candidacy for nomination					
18		for election or election to public office or has filed or accepted a nomination for					
19		public office;					
20		c. An individual who has formed a campaign or other committee for that individual's					
21		candidacy for public office;					
22		d. An individual who has circulated a nominating petition to have that individual's					
23		name placed on the ballot; and					
24		e. An individual who has, in any manner, solicited or received a contribution for that					
25		individual's candidacy for public office, whether before or after the election for					
26		that office.					
27	4. <u>5.</u>	"Conduit" means a person that is not a political party, political committee, or candidate					
28		and which receives a contribution of money and transfers the contribution to a					
29		candidate, political party, or political committee when the contribution is designated					
30		specifically for the candidate, political party, or political committee and the person has					
31		no discretion as to the recipient and the amount transferred. The term includes a					

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transactional intermediary, including a credit card company or a money transfer service that pays or transfers money to a candidate on behalf of another person.

"Contribution" means a gift, transfer, conveyance, provision, receipt, subscription, loan, advance, deposit of money, or anything of value, made for the purpose of influencing the nomination for election, or election, of any person to public office or aiding or opposing the circulation or passage of a statewide initiative or referendum petition or measure. The term also means a contract, promise, or agreement, express or implied, whether or not legally enforceable, to make a contribution for any of the above purposes. The term includes funds received by a candidate for public office or a political party or committee which are transferred or signed over to that candidate, party, or committee from another candidate, party, or political committee or other source including a conduit. The term "anything of value" includes any good or service of more than a nominal value. The term "nominal value" means the cost, price, or worth of the good or service is trivial, token, or of no appreciable value. The term "contribution" does not include:

- A loan of money from a bank or other lending institution made in the regular course of business.
- b. Time spent by volunteer campaign or political party workers.
- c. Money or anything of value received for commercial transactions, including rents, advertising, or sponsorships made as a part of a fair market value bargained-for exchange.
- d. Money or anything of value received for anything other than a political purpose.
- e. Products or services for which the actual cost or fair market value are reimbursed by a payment of money.
- f. An independent expenditure.
- g. The value of advertising paid by a political party, multicandidate political committee, or caucus which is in support of a candidate.
- h. In-kind contributions from a candidate to the candidate's campaign.

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"Cooperative corporations", "corporations", and "limited liability companies" are as defined in this code, and for purposes of this chapter "corporations" includes nonprofit corporations. However, if a political committee, the only purpose of which is accepting

1 contributions and making expenditures for a political purpose, incorporates for liability 2 purposes only, the committee is not considered a corporation for the purposes of this 3 chapter. 4 "Expenditure" means: 7.8. 5 A gift, transfer, conveyance, provision, loan, advance, payment, distribution, 6 disbursement, outlay, or deposit of money or anything of value, except a loan of 7 money from a bank or other lending institution made in the regular course of 8 business, made for a political purpose or for the purpose of influencing the 9 passage or defeat of a measure. 10 b. A contract, promise, or agreement, express or implied, whether or not legally 11 enforceable, to make any expenditure. 12 The transfer of funds by a political committee to another political committee. C. 13 An independent expenditure. d. 14 8.9. "Expenditure categories" means the categories into which expenditures must be 15 grouped for reports under this chapter. The expenditure categories are: 16 a. Advertising; 17 b. Campaign loan repayment; 18 C. Operations; 19 d. Travel; and 20 Miscellaneous. e. 21 9.10. "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure made for a political purpose or for 22 the purpose of influencing the passage or defeat of a measure if the expenditure is 23 made without the express or implied consent, authorization, or cooperation of, and not 24 in concert with or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate, committee, or 25 political party. 26 10.11. "Patron" means a person who owns equity interest in the form of stock, shares, or 27 membership or maintains similar financial rights in a cooperative corporation. 28 11.12. "Person" means an individual, partnership, political committee, association, 29 corporation, cooperative corporation, limited liability company, or other organization or 30 group of persons.

1 12.13. "Personal benefit" means a benefit to the candidate or another person which is not for 2 a political purpose or related to a candidate's responsibilities as a public officeholder, 3 and any other benefit that would convert a contribution to personal income. 4 13.<u>14.</u> "Political committee" means any committee, club, association, or other group of 5 persons which receives contributions or makes expenditures for political purposes and 6 includes: 7 A political action committee not connected to another organization and free to a. 8 solicit funds from the general public, or derived from a corporation, cooperative 9 corporation, limited liability company, affiliate, subsidiary, or an association that 10 solicits or receives contributions from its employees or members or makes 11 expenditures for political purposes on behalf of its employees or members; 12 A candidate committee established to support an individual candidate seeking b. 13 public office which solicits or receives contributions for political purposes; 14 A political organization registered with the federal election commission, which C. 15 solicits or receives contributions or makes expenditures for political purposes; 16 d. A multicandidate political committee, including a caucus, established to support 17 multiple groups or slates of candidates seeking public office, which solicits or 18 receives contributions for political purposes; and 19 A measure committee, including an initiative or referendum sponsoring e. 20 committee at any stage of its organization, which solicits or receives contributions 21 or makes expenditures for the purpose of aiding or opposing a measure sought 22 to be voted upon by the voters of the state, including any activities undertaken for 23 the purpose of drafting an initiative or referendum petition, seeking approval of 24 the secretary of state for the circulation of a petition, or seeking approval of the 25 submitted petitions. 26 14.15. "Political party" means any association, committee, or organization which nominates a 27 candidate for election to any office which may be filled by a vote of the electors of this 28 state or any of its political subdivisions and whose name appears on the election ballot 29 as the candidate of such association, committee, or organization. 30 15.16. "Political purpose" means any activity undertaken in support of or in opposition to the

election or nomination of a candidate to public office and includes using "vote for",

1		"oppose", or any similar support or opposition language in any advertisement whether
2		the activity is undertaken by a candidate, a political committee, a political party, or any
3		person. In the period thirty days before a primary election and sixty days before a
4		special or general election, "political purpose" also means any activity in which a
5		candidate's name, office, district, or any term meaning the same as "incumbent" or
6		"challenger" is used in support of or in opposition to the election or nomination of a
7		candidate to public office. The term does not include activities undertaken in the
8		performance of a duty of a public office or any position taken in any bona fide news
9		story, commentary, or editorial.
10	16. <u>17.</u>	"Public office" means every office to which an individual can be elected by vote of the
11	1	people under the laws of this state.
12	17. <u>18.</u>	"Subsidiary" means an affiliate of a corporation under the control of the corporation
13	ı	directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries.
14	19. 18.	"Ultimate and true source" means the person whothat knowingly contributed over two
15		hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, solely to influence a statewide election or an
16		election for the legislative assembly.
17	—SE(CTION 2. AMENDMENT. Subsection 4 of section 16.1-08.1-02.1 of the North Dakota
18	Century	Code is amended and reenacted as follows:
19	4.	The statement filed according to this section must show the following:
20		a. The balance of the filer's convention accounts at the start and close of the
21		reporting period;
22		b. The total of all revenue received and expenditures made of two hundred dollars,
23		adjusted for inflation, or less;
24		c. The total of all revenue received and expenditures made in excess of two-
25		hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation;
26		d. For each aggregated revenue received from a person in excess of two hundred
27		dollars, adjusted for inflation:
28	-	(1) The name of each person;
29		(2) The mailing address of each person;
30		(3) The date of the most recent receipt of revenue from each
31		nerson: and

1	(4) The purpose or purposes for which the aggregated revenue total was
2	received from each person;
3	e. For each aggregated expenditure made to a person in excess of two hundred
4	dollars, adjusted for inflation:
5	(1) The name of each person or entity;
6	(2) The mailing address of each person or entity;
7	(3) The date of the most recent expense made to each person or entity; and
8	(4) The purpose or purposes for which the aggregated expenditure total was
9	disbursed to each person or entity; and
10	f. For each aggregated revenue from an individual which totals five thousand-
11	dollars, adjusted for inflation, or more during the reporting period, the occupation,
12	employer, and principal place of business of the individual must be disclosed.
13	SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 16.1-08.1-02.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is
14	amended and reenacted as follows:
15	— 16.1-08.1-02.3. Pre-election, supplemental, and year-end campaign disclosure
16	statement requirements for candidates, candidate committees, multicandidate
17	committees, and nonstatewide political parties.
18	1. Prior to the thirty-first day before a primary, general, or special election, a candidate or
19	candidate committee formed on behalf of the candidate, a multicandidate political
20	committee, or a political party other than a statewide political party soliciting or
21	accepting contributions shall file a campaign disclosure statement that includes all-
22	contributions received from January first through the fortieth day before the election. A
23	candidate whose name is not on the ballot and who is not seeking election through
24	write-in votes, the candidate's candidate committee, and a political party that has not
25	endorsed or nominated any candidate in the election is not required to file a statement
26	under this subsection. The statement may be submitted for filing beginning on the
27	thirty-ninth day before the election. The statement must include:
28	a. For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two
29	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, received during the reporting period:
30	(1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;
31	(2) The total amount of the contribution; and

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2	b. The total of all aggregated contributions from contributors which total in excess of
3	two hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, during the reporting period;
4	c. The total of all contributions received from contributors that contributed two-
5	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, or less each during the reporting period;
6	and
7	d. For a statewide candidate, a candidate committee formed on behalf of a
8	statewide candidate, and a statewide multicandidate committee, the balance of
9	the campaign fund on the fortieth day before the election and the balance of the
10	campaign fund on January first.
11	2. Beginning on the thirty-ninth day before the election through the day before the
12	election, a person that files a statement under subsection 1 must file a supplemental
13	statement within forty-eight hours of the start of the day following the receipt of a
14	contribution or aggregate contribution from a contributor which is in excess of five-
15	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation. The statement must include:
16	a. The name and mailing address of the contributor;
17	b. The total amount of the contribution received during the reporting period; and
18	c. The date the last contributed amount was received.
19	3. Prior to February first, a candidate or candidate committee, a multicandidate political
20	committee, or a nonstatewide political party soliciting or accepting contributions shall
21	file a campaign disclosure statement that includes all contributions received and
22	expenditures, by expenditure category, made from January first through December-
23	thirty-first of the previous year. The statement may be submitted for filing beginning on
24	January first. The statement must include:
25	a. For a statewide candidate, a candidate committee formed on behalf of a
26	statewide candidate, and a statewide multicandidate committee, the balance of
27	the campaign fund on January first and on December thirty-first;
28	b. For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two-
29	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, received during the reporting period:
30	(1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;
31	(2) The total amount of the contribution; and

1	— 16.1-08.1-02.4. Pre-election, supplemental, and year-end campaign disclosure				
2	statement requirements for statewide political parties and certain political committees.				
3	Prior to the thirty-first day before a primary, general, or special election, a statewide				
4	political party or a political committee not required to file statements under section				
5	16.1-08.1-02.3 which is soliciting or accepting contributions shall file a campaign				
6	disclosure statement that includes all contributions received and expenditures made				
7	from January first through the fortieth day before the election. A political party that has				
8	not endorsed or nominated a candidate in an election is not required to file a				
9	statement under this subsection. A statement required to be filed under this subsection				
10	may be submitted for filing beginning on the thirty-ninth day before the election. The				
11	statement must include:				
12	a. For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two-				
13	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, received during the reporting period:				
14	(1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;				
15	(2) The total amount of the contribution; and				
16	(3) The date the last contributed amount was received;				
17	b. The total of all aggregated contributions from contributors which total in excess of				
18	two hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, during the reporting period;				
19	c. The total of all contributions received from contributors that contributed two				
20	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, or less each during the reporting period;				
21	d. For each recipient of an expenditure from campaign funds in excess of two-				
22	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, in the aggregate:				
23	(1) The name and mailing address of the recipient;				
24	(2) The total amount of the expenditure made to the recipient; and				
25	(3) The date the last expended amount was made to the recipient;				
26	e. The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds in excess of two				
27	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation;				
28	f. The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds of two hundred				
29	dollars, adjusted for inflation, or less; and				
30	g. The balance of the campaign fund on the fortieth day before the election and				
31	balance of the campaign fund on January first.				

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1	2. Beginning on the thirty-ninth day before the election through the day before the
2	election, a person that files a statement under subsection 1 must file a supplemental
3	statement within forty-eight hours of the start of the day following the receipt of a-
4	contribution or aggregate contribution from a contributor which is in excess of five-
5	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation. The statement must include:
6	a. The name and mailing address of the contributor;
7	b. The total amount of the contribution received during the reporting period; and
8	c. The date the last contributed amount was received.
9	3. Prior to February first, a statewide political party or a political committee that is not
10	required to file a statement under section 16.1-08.1-2.3 shall file a campaign-
11	disclosure statement that includes all contributions received and expenditures made
12	from January first through December thirty-first of the previous year. The statement
13	may be submitted for filing beginning on January first. The statement must include:
14	a. For each aggregated contribution from a contributor which totals in excess of two-
15	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, received during the reporting period:
16	(1) The name and mailing address of the contributor;
17	(2) The total amount of the contribution; and
18	(3) The date the last contributed amount was received;
19	b. The total of all aggregated contributions from contributors which total in excess of
20	two hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, during the reporting period;
21	c. The total of all contributions received from contributors that contributed two
22	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, or less each during the reporting period;
23	d. For each recipient of an expenditure from campaign funds in excess of two
24	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, in the aggregate:
25	(1) The name and mailing address of the recipient;
26	(2) The total amount of the expenditure made to the recipient; and
27	(3) The date the last expended amount was made to the recipient;
28	e. The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds in excess of two
29	hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation;
30	f. The aggregate total of all expenditures from campaign funds of two hundred
31	dollars, adjusted for inflation, or less; and

1		g. The balance of the campaign fund on January first and December thirty-first.
2	4.	A person required to file a statement under this section shall disclose each aggregated
3		contribution from a contributor which totals five thousand dollars, adjusted for inflation,
4		or more during the reporting period. For these contributions from individuals, the
5		statement must include the contributor's occupation, employer, and the employer's
6		principal place of business.
7	5.	Statements under this section must be filed with the secretary of state.
8	6.	The secretary of state shall assess and collect fees for any reports filed after the filing-
9		deadline.
0	—SEC	CTION 5. AMENDMENT. Section 16.1-08.1-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11	amende	d and reenacted as follows:
2	16.1	-08.1-03.1. Special requirements for statements required of persons engaged in
3	activitie	es regarding ballot measures.
4	1.	For each reportable contribution and expenditure under section 16.1-08.1-02.4, the
5		threshold for reporting is one hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, for any person-
6		engaged in activities described in subdivision e of subsection 1314 of section
7		16.1-08.1-01.
8	2	For contributions received from an out-of-state contributor, a person engaged in
9		activities described in subdivision e of subsection 1314 of section 16.1-08.1-01 shall
20		include the following information regarding each subcontributor that has stated a
21		contribution is for the express purpose of furthering the passage or defeat of a ballot
22		measure in the statements required under section 16.1-08.1-02.4:
23		a. A designation as to whether any person contributed in excess of one hundred
24		dollars, adjusted for inflation, of the total contribution;
25		b. The name and mailing address of each subcontributor that contributed in excess-
26		of one hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, of the total contribution;
27		c. The contribution amounts of each disclosed subcontributor; and
28		d. The occupation, employer, and address for the employer's principal place of
29		business of each disclosed subcontributor.
30	3.	An initiative and referendum sponsoring committee also shall file a disclosure
31		statement by the date the secretary of state approves the petition for circulation, and

shall file an additional statement on the date the petitions containing the required number of signatures are submitted to the secretary of state for review. The statements required under this subsection must be in the same form as the year-end-statements under section 16.1-08.1-02.4.

4. A sponsoring committee shall file a statement regarding its intent to compensate circulators before paying for petitions to be circulated.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 16.1-08.1-03.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

16.1-08.1-03.7. Political committees that organize and register according to federal law that make independent expenditures or disbursements to nonfederal candidates, political parties, and political committees.

A political committee that organizes and registers according to federal law and makes an independent expenditure or makes a disbursement in excess of two hundred dollars to a nonfederal candidate seeking public office or to a political party or political committee in this state shall file a copy of that portion of the committee's federal report detailing the independent expenditure or the disbursement made. The political committee shall file a copy of the committee's federal report, and supplementary information as necessary under this section, with the secretary of state at the time of filing the report with the applicable federal agency. The report and supplementary information must include:

- 1. The name, mailing address, and treasurer of the political committee;
- 2. The recipient's name and mailing address; and
- 3. The date and amount of the independent expenditure or disbursement; and
- 4. The ultimate and true source of funds listed by contributor and subcontributor of any amount over two hundred dollars collected or used to make the independent expenditure or disbursement including:
 - a. The name and address of the contributor;
 - b. The total amount of the contribution; and
 - c. The date the last contribution was received.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 16.1-08.1-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1 16.1-08.1-04.1. Personal use of contributions prohibited. 2 <u>1.</u> A candidate may not use any contribution received by the candidate, the candidate's 3 candidate committee, or a multicandidate political committee to: 4 1. Give a personal benefit to the candidate or another person; a. 5 2. b. Make a loan to another person; 6 3. <u>C.</u> Knowingly pay more than the fair market value for goods or services purchased 7 for the campaign; or 8 4. Pay a criminal fine or civil penalty. <u>d.</u> 9 <u>2.</u> For the first violation, the secretary of state shall assess a civil penalty of five hundred 10 dollars upon any person who knowingly violates this section. The assessment of a civil 11 penalty may be appealed to the district court of Burleigh County. For a second and 12 subsequent knowing violation of this section, the person is guilty of a class B 13 misdemeanor. The secretary of state shall assess a civil penalty upon any person that 14 knowingly violates this section. 15 If the contribution used in violation of this section has a value of two thousand 16 five hundred dollars or more, the civil penalty must be two times the value of the 17 contribution. 18 If the contribution used in violation of this section has a value of less than two 19 thousand five hundred dollars, the civil penalty must be at least two times the 20 value of the contribution and may be up to five thousand dollars. 21 The assessment of a civil penalty may be appealed to the district court of the county 22 where the candidate resides. 23 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 16.1-08.1-06.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is 24 amended and reenacted as follows: 25 16.1-08.1-06.2. Secretary of state to provide instructions, make adjustments for 26 inflation, and conduct training. 27 The secretary of state shall provide instructions and conduct training for the purpose of 28 promoting uniform application of campaign finance and disclosure requirements and the uniform 29 filing of statements, registrations, or reports according to this chapter. The secretary also shall 30 determine adjustments for inflation of the reporting thresholds in this chapter and instruct 31 persons submitting reports under this chapter of the adjustments. On January first of each year,

the secretary shall determine whether the accumulated change in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (all items, United States city average), as applied to each reporting threshold in this chapter, would result in an adjustment of at least ten dollars of the threshold in effect on that date. If so, the secretary shall deem the reporting threshold adjusted by ten dollars.

SECTION 5. A new section to chapter 16.1-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

<u>Ultimate and true source of funds - Required identification - Penalty.</u>

- In any reportstatement under this chapter which requires the identification of a
 contributor or subcontributor, the ultimate and true source of funds must be identified.
- 2. A resident taxpayer may commence an action in a district court of this state against a person required to comply with this section to compel compliance if all other enforcement measures under this chapter have been exhausted and the taxpayer reasonably believes the person has failed to comply with this section. A failure to comply with this section must be proved by clear and convincing evidence.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-01. **Definitions**.

In this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise provides:

1. "Adjudicative proceeding" means an administrative matter resulting in an agency issuing an order after an opportunity for hearing is provided or required. An adjudicative proceeding includes administrative matters involving a hearing on a complaint against a specific-named respondent; a hearing on an application seeking a right, privilege, or an authorization from an agency, such as a ratemaking or licensing hearing; or a hearing on an appeal to an agency. An adjudicative proceeding includes reconsideration, rehearing, or reopening. Once an adjudicative proceeding has begun, the adjudicative proceeding includes any informal disposition of the administrative matter under section 28-32-22 or another specific statute or rule, unless the matter has been specifically converted to another type of proceeding under section 28-32-22. An adjudicative proceeding does not include a decision or order to file or not to file a complaint, or to initiate an investigation, an adjudicative proceeding, or any other

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- proceeding before the agency, or another agency, or a court. An adjudicative proceeding does not include a decision or order to issue, reconsider, or reopen an order that precedes an opportunity for hearing or that under another section of this code is not subject to review in an adjudicative proceeding. An adjudicative proceeding does not include rulemaking under this chapter.
 - 2. "Administrative agency" or "agency" means each board, bureau, commission, department, or other administrative unit of the executive branch of state government, including one or more officers, employees, or other persons directly or indirectly purporting to act on behalf or under authority of the agency. An administrative unit located within or subordinate to an administrative agency must be treated as part of that agency to the extent it purports to exercise authority subject to this chapter. The term administrative agency does not include:
 - a. The office of management and budget except with respect to rules made under section 32-12.2-14, rules relating to conduct on the capitol grounds and in buildings located on the capitol grounds under section 54-21-18, rules relating to the classified service as authorized under section 54-44.3-07, and rules relating to state purchasing practices as required under section 54-44.4-04.
 - b. The adjutant general with respect to the department of emergency services.
 - c. The council on the arts.
 - d. The state auditor.
 - e. The department of commerce with respect to the division of economic development and finance.
 - f. The dairy promotion commission.
 - g. The education factfinding commission.
 - h. The educational technology council.
 - The board of equalization.
 - j. The board of higher education.
- 28 k. The Indian affairs commission.
 - I. The industrial commission with respect to the activities of the Bank of North

 Dakota, North Dakota housing finance agency, public finance authority, North

1 Dakota mill and elevator association, North Dakota farm finance agency, the 2 North Dakota transmission authority, and the North Dakota pipeline authority. 3 m. The department of corrections and rehabilitation except with respect to the 4 activities of the division of adult services under chapter 54-23.4. 5 The pardon advisory board. n. 6 The parks and recreation department. Ο. 7 The parole board. p. 8 The state fair association. q. 9 The attorney general with respect to activities of the state toxicologist and the 10 state crime laboratory. 11 The administrative committee on veterans' affairs except with respect to rules 12 relating to the supervision and government of the veterans' home and the 13 implementation of programs or services provided by the veterans' home. 14 The industrial commission with respect to the liquite research fund except as 15 required under section 57-61-01.5. 16 The attorney general with respect to guidelines adopted under section 12.1-32-15 u. 17 for the risk assessment of sexual offenders, the risk level review process, and 18 public disclosure of information under section 12.1-32-15. 19 The commission on legal counsel for indigents. V. 20 The attorney general with respect to twenty-four seven sobriety program W. 21 guidelines and program fees. 22 The industrial commission with respect to approving or setting water rates under X. 23 chapter 61-40. 24 3. "Agency head" means an individual or body of individuals in whom the ultimate legal 25 authority of the agency is vested by law. 26 4. "Commission" means the North Dakota ethics commission established by article XIV 27 of the Constitution of North Dakota. 28 "Complainant" means any person who files a complaint before an administrative 5. 29 agency pursuant to section 28-32-21 and any administrative agency that, when 30 authorized by law, files such a complaint before such agency or any other agency.

1 "Hearing officer" means any agency head or one or more members of the agency 5.6. 2 head when presiding in an administrative proceeding, or, unless prohibited by law, one 3 or more other persons designated by the agency head to preside in an administrative 4 proceeding, an administrative law judge from the office of administrative hearings, or 5 any other person duly assigned, appointed, or designated to preside in an 6 administrative proceeding pursuant to statute or rule. 7 6.7. "License" means a franchise, permit, certification, approval, registration, charter, or 8 similar form of authorization required by law. 9 7.8. "Order" means any agency action of particular applicability which determines the legal 10 rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other legal interests of one or more specific 11 persons. The term does not include an executive order issued by the governor. 12 8.9. "Party" means each person named or admitted as a party or properly seeking and 13 entitled as of right to be admitted as a party. An administrative agency may be a party. 14 In a hearing for the suspension, revocation, or disqualification of an operator's license 15 under title 39, the term may include each city and each county in which the alleged 16 conduct occurred, but the city or county may not appeal the decision of the hearing 17 officer. 18 9.10. "Person" includes an individual, association, partnership, corporation, limited liability 19 company, the commission, a state governmental agency or governmental subdivision, 20 or an agency of such governmental subdivision. 21 10.11. "Relevant evidence" means evidence having any tendency to make the existence of 22 any fact that is of consequence to the determination of the administrative action more 23 probable or less probable than it would be without the evidence. 24 11.12. "Rule" means the whole or a part of an agency or commission statement of general 25 applicability which implements or prescribes law or policy or the organization, 26 procedure, or practice requirements of the agency or commission. The term includes 27 the adoption of new rules and the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing 28 rule. The term does not include: 29 A rule concerning only the internal management of an agency or the commission 30 which does not directly or substantially affect the substantive or procedural rights 31 or duties of any segment of the public.

1 A rule that sets forth criteria or guidelines to be used by the staff of an agency or 2 the commission in the performance of audits, investigations, inspections, and 3 settling commercial disputes or negotiating commercial arrangements, or in the 4 defense, prosecution, or settlement of cases, if the disclosure of the 5 statementrule would: 6 (1) Enable law violators to avoid detection; 7 Facilitate disregard of requirements imposed by law; or (2) 8 (3) Give a clearly improper advantage to persons who are in an adverse 9 position to the state. 10 A rule establishing specific prices to be charged for particular goods or services C. 11 sold by an agency. 12 A rule concerning only the physical servicing, maintenance, or care of d. 13 agency-owned or, agency-operated, commission-owned, or 14 commission-operated facilities or property. 15 A rule relating only to the use of a particular facility or property owned, operated, e. 16 or maintained by the state or any of its subdivisions, if the substance of the rule is 17 adequately indicated by means of signs or signals to persons who use the facility 18 or property. 19 A rule concerning only inmates of a correctional or detention facility, students 20 enrolled in an educational institution, or patients admitted to a hospital, if adopted 21 by that facility, institution, or hospital. 22 A form whose contents or substantive requirements are prescribed by rule or g. 23 statute or are instructions for the execution or use of the form. 24 h. An agency <u>or commission</u> budget. 25 i. An opinion of the attorney general. 26 A rule adopted by an agency selection committee under section 54-44.7-03. j. 27 k. Any material, including a guideline, interpretive statement, statement of general 28 policy, manual, brochure, or pamphlet, which is explanatory and not intended to 29 have the force and effect of law. 30 SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is 31 amended and reenacted as follows:

- A final rule adopted after consideration of all written and oral submissions respecting
 the interim final rule, which is substantially similar to the interim final rule, is effective
 as of the declared effective date of the interim final rule.
 - 4. The <u>commission's or</u> agency's finding, and a brief statement of the <u>commission's or</u> agency's reasons for the finding, must be filed with the legislative council with the final adopted emergency rule.
 - 5. The <u>commission or</u> agency shall attempt to make interim final rules known to persons who the <u>commission or</u> agency can reasonably be expected to believe may have a substantial interest in them. As used in this subsection, "substantial interest" means an interest in the effect of the rules which surpasses the common interest of all citizens.

 AnThe commission or an agency adopting emergency rules shall comply with the notice requirements of section 28-32-10 which relate to emergency rules and shall provide notice to the chairman of the administrative rules committee of the emergency status, declared effective date, and grounds for emergency status of the rules under subsection 2. When notice of emergency rule adoption is received, the legislative council shall publish the notice and emergency rules on its website.
 - 6. An interim final rule is ineffective one hundred eighty days after its declared effective date unless first adopted as a final rule.
 - **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 28-32-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-06. Force and effect of rules.

Upon becoming effective, rules have the force and effect of law until amended or repealed by the agency <u>or commission</u>, declared invalid by a final court decision, suspended or found to be void by the administrative rules committee, or determined repealed by the legislative council because the authority for adoption of the rules is repealed or transferred to another agency. <u>or the Constitution of North Dakota is amended to eliminate the authority</u>.

SECTION 9. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-07. Deadline for rules to implement statutory change.

Any rule change, including a creation, amendment, or repeal, made to implement a statutory change must be adopted and filed with the legislative council within nine months of the

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- 1 effective date of the statutory change. If an agency or the commission needs additional time for 2 the rule change, a request for additional time must be made to the legislative council. The 3 legislative council may extend the time within which the agency or commission must adopt the 4 rule change if the request by the agency or commission is supported by evidence that the 5 agency or commission needs more time through no deliberate fault of its own. 6 SECTION 10. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is 7 amended and reenacted as follows: 8 28-32-08. Regulatory analysis. 9 An agency or the commission shall issue a regulatory analysis of a proposed rule if: 10 Within twenty days after the last published notice date of a proposed rule 11 hearing, a written request for the analysis is filed by the governor or a member of 12 the legislative assembly; or 13 b. The proposed rule is expected to have an impact on the regulated community in 14 excess of fifty thousand dollars. The analysis under this subdivision must be 15 available on or before the first date of public notice as provided for in section 16 28-32-10. 17 2. The regulatory analysis must contain: 18 a. A description of the classes of persons who probably will be affected by the 19 proposed rule, including classes that will bear the costs of the proposed rule and 20 classes that will benefit from the proposed rule; 21 b. A description of the probable impact, including economic impact, of the proposed 22 rule; 23 The probable costs to the agency or commission of the implementation and 24 enforcement of the proposed rule and any anticipated effect on state revenues; 25 and 26 A description of any alternative methods for achieving the purpose of the 27 proposed rule that were seriously considered by the agency or commission and
 - 3. Each regulatory analysis must include quantification of the data to the extent practicable.

the reasons why the methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rule.

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1 The agency or commission shall mail or deliver a copy of the regulatory analysis to 2 any person who requests a copy of the regulatory analysis. The agency or commission 3 may charge a fee for a copy of the regulatory analysis as allowed under section 4 44-04-18. 5 If required under subsection 1, the preparation and issuance of a regulatory analysis is 5. 6 a mandatory duty of the agency or commission proposing a rule. Errors in a regulatory 7 analysis, including erroneous determinations concerning the impact of the proposed 8 rule on the regulated community, are not a ground upon which the invalidity of a rule 9 may be asserted or declared. 10 SECTION 11. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-08.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is 11 amended and reenacted as follows: 12 28-32-08.1. Rules affecting small entities - Analysis - Economic impact statements -13 Judicial review. 14 As used in this section: 15 "Small business" means a business entity, including its affiliates, which: 16 (1) Is independently owned and operated; and 17 (2) Employs fewer than twenty-five full-time employees or has gross annual 18 sales of less than two million five hundred thousand dollars; 19 b. "Small entity" includes small business, small organization, and small political 20 subdivision; 21 "Small organization" means any not-for-profit enterprise that is independently C. 22 owned and operated and is not dominant in its field; and 23 "Small political subdivision" means a political subdivision with a population of less d. 24 than five thousand. 25 2. Before adoption of any proposed rule, the adopting agency or the commission shall 26 prepare a regulatory analysis in which, consistent with public health, safety, and 27 welfare, the agency or commission considers utilizing regulatory methods that will 28 accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing adverse impact on

of reducing impact of the proposed rule on small entities:

small entities. The agency or commission shall consider each of the following methods

1 Establishment of less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small 2 entities: 3 b. Establishment of less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or 4 reporting requirements for small entities; 5 Consolidation or simplification of compliance or reporting requirements for small C. 6 entities: 7 Establishment of performance standards for small entities to replace design or d. 8 operational standards required in the proposed rule; and 9 e. Exemption of small entities from all or any part of the requirements contained in 10 the proposed rule. 11 3. Before adoption of any proposed rule that may have an adverse impact on small 12 entities, the adopting agency or the commission shall prepare an economic impact 13 statement that includes consideration of: 14 The small entities subject to the proposed rule: a. 15 b. The administrative and other costs required for compliance with the proposed 16 rule; 17 The probable cost and benefit to private persons and consumers who are C. 18 affected by the proposed rule; 19 d. The probable effect of the proposed rule on state revenues; and 20 Any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of e. 21 the proposed rule. 22 4. For any rule subject to this section, a small entity that is adversely affected or 23 aggrieved by final agency or commission action is entitled to judicial review of agency 24 or commission compliance with the requirements of this section. A small entity seeking 25 judicial review under this section must file a petition for judicial review within one year 26 from the date of final agency or commission action. 27 5. This section does not apply to the ethics commission, any agency that is an 28 occupational or professional licensing authority, nor does this section apply to and the 29 following agencies or divisions of agencies: 30 Council on the arts. a. 31 Beef commission. b.

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Dairy promotion commission. 2 d. Dry bean council. 3 e. Highway patrolmen's retirement board. 4 Indian affairs commission. f. 5 Board for Indian scholarships. g. 6 h. State personnel board. 7 Potato council. i. 8 j. Board of public school education. 9 k. Real estate trust account committee. 10 I. Seed commission. 11 m. Soil conservation committee. 12 Oilseed council. n. 13 Wheat commission. 0. 14 State seed arbitration board. p. 15 q. North Dakota lottery. 16 This section does not apply to rules mandated by federal law. 6. 17 7. The adopting agency or the commission shall provide the administrative rules 18 committee copies of any regulatory analysis or economic impact statement, or both, 19 prepared under this section when the committee is considering the associated rules. 20 SECTION 12. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-08.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is 21 amended and reenacted as follows: 22 28-32-08.2. Fiscal notes for administrative rules. 23 When an agency or the commission presents rules for administrative rules committee 24 consideration, the agency or commission shall provide a fiscal note or a statement in its 25 testimony that the rules have no fiscal effect. A fiscal note must reflect the effect of the rules 26 changes on state revenues and expenditures, including any effect on funds controlled by the 27 agency or commission. 28 SECTION 13. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is 29 amended and reenacted as follows:

1 28-32-09. Takings assessment.

- An agency <u>or the commission</u> shall prepare a written assessment of the constitutional takings implications of a proposed rule that may limit the use of private real property.
 The agency's assessment must:
 - a. Assess the likelihood that the proposed rule may result in a taking or regulatory taking.
 - b. Clearly and specifically identify the purpose of the proposed rule.
 - c. Explain why the proposed rule is necessary to substantially advance that purpose and why no alternative action is available that would achieve the agency's <u>or</u> commission's goals while reducing the impact on private property owners.
 - d. Estimate the potential cost to the government if a court determines that the proposed rule constitutes a taking or regulatory taking.
 - e. Identify the source of payment within the agency's <u>or commission's</u> budget for any compensation that may be ordered.
 - Certify that the benefits of the proposed rule exceed the estimated compensation costs.
 - 2. Any private landowner who is or may be affected by a rule that limits the use of the landowner's private real property may request in writing that the agency or commission reconsider the application or need for the rule. Within thirty days of receiving the request, the agency or commission shall consider the request and shall in writing inform the landowner whether the agency or commission intends to keep the rule in place, modify application of the rule, or repeal the rule.
 - 3. In an agency's analysis of the takings implications of a proposed rule, "taking" means the taking of private real property, as defined in section 47-01-03, by government action which requires compensation to the owner of that property by the fifth or fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States or section 16 of article I of the Constitution of North Dakota. "Regulatory taking" means a taking of real property through the exercise of the police and regulatory powers of the state which reduces the value of the real property by more than fifty percent. However, the exercise of a police or regulatory power does not effect a taking if it substantially

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advances legitimate state interests, does not deny an owner economically viable use of the owner's land, or is in accordance with applicable state or federal law.

SECTION 14. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-10. Notice of rulemaking - Hearing date.

- 1. An agency <u>or the commission</u> shall prepare a full notice and an abbreviated notice of rulemaking.
 - The agency's full notice of the proposed adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule must include a short, specific explanation of the proposed rule and the purpose of the proposed rule, identify the emergency status and declared effective date of any emergency rules, include a determination of whether the proposed rulemaking is expected to have an impact on the regulated community in excess of fifty thousand dollars, identify at least one location where interested persons may review the text of the proposed rule, provide the address to which written comments concerning the proposed rule may be sent, provide the deadline for submission of written comments, provide a telephone number and post-office or electronic mail address at which a copy of the rules and regulatory analysis may be requested, and, in the case of a substantive rule, provide the time and place set for each oral hearing. TheAn agency's full notice must include a statement of the bill number and general subject matter of any legislation, enacted during the most recent session of the legislative assembly, which is being implemented by the proposed rule. The commission's full notice must include a statement of the provision of the Constitution of North Dakota or the bill number and general subject matter of any legislation enacted during the most recent session of the legislative assembly which that is being implemented by the proposed rule. The agency's full notice must be filed with the legislative council, accompanied by a copy of the proposed rules.
 - b. The agency <u>or commission</u> shall request publication of an abbreviated newspaper publication notice at least once in each official county newspaper published in this state. The abbreviated newspaper publication of notice must be in a display-type format with a minimum width of one column of approximately

- two inches [5.08 centimeters] and a minimum depth of approximately three inches [7.62 centimeters] and with a headline describing the general topic of the proposed rules. The notice must also include the telephone number or address to use to obtain a copy of the proposed rules, identification of the emergency status and declared effective date of any emergency rules, the address to use and the deadline to submit written comments, and the location, date, and time of the public hearing on the rules.
 - 2. The agency <u>or commission</u> shall mail or deliver by electronic mail a copy of the agency's full notice and proposed rule to each member of the legislative assembly whose name appeared as a sponsor or cosponsor of legislation, enacted during the most recent session of the legislative assembly, which is being implemented by the proposed rule and to each person who has made a timely request to the agency <u>or commission</u> for a copy of the notice and proposed rule. The agency <u>or commission</u> may mail or otherwise provide a copy of the agency's full notice to any person who is likely to be an interested person. The agency <u>or commission</u> may charge persons who are not members of the legislative assembly fees for copies of the proposed rule as allowed under section 44-04-18.
 - 3. In addition to the other notice requirements of this subsection, the superintendent of public instruction shall provide notice of any proposed rulemaking by the superintendent of public instruction to each association with statewide membership whose primary focus is elementary and secondary education issues which has requested to receive notice from the superintendent under this subsection and to the superintendent of each public school district in this state, or the president of the school board for school districts that have no superintendent, at least twenty days before the date of the hearing described in the notice. Notice provided by the superintendent of public instruction under this section must be by first-class mail. However, upon request of a group or person entitled to notice under this section, the superintendent of public instruction shall provide the group or person notice by electronic mail.
 - 4. The legislative council shall establish standard procedures for the commission and all agencies to follow in complying with the provisions of this section and a procedure to allow any person to request and receive mailed copies of all filings made by agencies

- and the commission pursuant to this section. The legislative council may charge an annual fee as established by the administrative rules committee for providing copies of the filings.
 - 5. At least twenty days must elapse between the date of the publication of the notice and the date of the hearing. Within fifteen business days after receipt of a notice under this section, a copy of the notice must be mailed by the legislative council to any person who has paid the annual fee established under subsection 4.

SECTION 15. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-11. Conduct of hearings - Notice of administrative rules committee consideration - Consideration and written record of comments.

The agency <u>or commission</u> shall adopt a procedure whereby all interested persons are afforded reasonable opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, orally or in writing, concerning the proposed rule, including data respecting the impact of the proposed rule. The agency <u>or commission</u> shall adopt a procedure to allow interested parties to request and receive notice from the agency <u>or commission</u> of the date and place the rule will be reviewed by the administrative rules committee. In case of substantive rules, the agency <u>or commission</u> shall conduct an oral hearing. The agency <u>or commission</u> shall consider fully all written and oral submissions respecting a proposed rule prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule not of an emergency nature. The agency <u>or commission</u> shall make a written record of its consideration of all written and oral submissions contained in the rulemaking record respecting a proposed rule.

SECTION 16. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-12 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-12. Comment period.

The agency <u>or commission</u> shall allow, after the conclusion of any rulemaking hearing, a comment period of at least ten days during which data, views, or arguments concerning the proposed rulemaking will be received by the agency <u>or commission</u> and made a part of the rulemaking record to be considered by the agency <u>or commission</u>.

SECTION 16. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28- 3	2-14	Atto		
	, <u> </u>	. Allo	rney general review of rules.	
Every proposed rule proposed by any administrative agency must be submitted to the				
attorney general for an opinion as to its legality before final adoption, and the attorney general				
promptly	/ sha l	l furni	sh each such opinion. The attorney general may not approve any rule as to	
legality,	and s	hall a	dvise the agency or commission of any necessary rewording or revision of	
the rule, when the:				
<u>—1.</u>	<u>The</u>	rule (exceeds the statutory authority of the agency, or the statutory or constitutional	
	<u>auth</u>	ority	of the commission;	
<u>2.</u>	<u>The</u>	<u>rule</u> i	s written in a manner that is not concise or easily understandable; or when	
	the			
	<u>3.</u>	The p	procedural requirements for adoption of the rule in this chapter are not	
substantially met. The attorney general shall advise an agency of any revision or				
	rew	ording	of a rule necessary to correct objections as to legality.	
SECTION 17. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is				
amended and reenacted as follows:				
28-32-15. Filing of rules for publication - Effective date of rules.				
1.	A co	py of	each rule adopted by an administrative agency or the commission, a copy of	
ı	eac	h writt	ten comment and a written summary of each oral comment on the rule, and	
	the attorney general's opinion on the rule, if any, must be filed by the adopting agency			
or commission with the legislative council for publication of the rule in the North				
	Dak	ota A	dministrative Code.	
2.	a.	Non	emergency rules approved by the attorney general as to legality, adopted by	
		an a	dministrative agency or the commission, and filed with the legislative council,	
		and	not voided or held for consideration by the administrative rules committee	
		beco	ome effective according to the following schedule:	
		(1)	Rules filed with the legislative council from August second through	
			November first become effective on the immediately succeeding January	
			first.	
		(2)	Rules filed with the legislative council from November second through	
	sec attorney promptly legality. the rule,	each the substant of calculations and substant and substa	attorney general for promptly shall furnit legality, and shall at the rule, when the: 1. The rule of authority 2. The rule is the 3. The proposed attorney is substantial rewording. SECTION 17. A amended and reem 28-32-15. Filling 1. A copy of each write the attorney or commit Dakota A 2. a. None an anal and become (1)	

February first become effective on the immediately succeeding April first.

1	(3)	Rules filed with the legislative council from February second through May			
2		first become effective on the immediately succeeding July first.			
3	(4)	Rules filed with the legislative council from May second through August first			
4		become effective on the immediately succeeding October first.			
5	b. If p	ublication is delayed for any reason other than action of the administrative			
6	rule	es committee, nonemergency rules, unless otherwise provided, become			
7	effe	ective when publication would have occurred but for the delay.			
8	c. Aru	ule held for consideration by the administrative rules committee becomes			
9	effe	ective on the first effective date of rules under the schedule in subdivision a			
0	follo	owing the meeting at which that rule is reconsidered by the committee.			
11	SECTION 18.	AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-16 of the North Dakota Century Code is			
2	amended and ree	nacted as follows:			
3	28-32-16. Pet	ition for reconsideration of rule - Hearing by agency .			
4	Any person su	ubstantially interested in the effect of a rule adopted by an administrative			
5	agency or the commission may petition suchthe agency or commission for a reconsideration of				
6	any suchthe rule or for an amendment or repeal thereof. Suchof the rule. The petition must				
7	state clearly and concisely the petitioners' alleged grounds for such reconsideration or for the				
8	proposed repeal or amendment of suchthe rule. The agency or commission may grant the				
9	petitioner a public hearing upon suchon the terms and conditions as the agency may				
20	prescribe <u>prescribes</u> .				
21	SECTION 20. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is				
22	amended and reenacted as follows:				
23	— 28-32-17. Administrative rules committee objection.				
24	If the legislativ	ve management's administrative rules committee objects to all or any portion			
25	of a rule because the committee deems it to be unreasonable, arbitrary, capricious, or beyond-				
26	the authority delegated to the adopting agency or commission, the committee may file that				
27	objection in certified form with the legislative council. The filed objection must contain a concise				
28	statement of the committee's reasons for its action.				
29	——1. The legis	slative council shall attach to each objection a certification of the time and date			
30	of its filin	ng and, as soon as possible, shall transmit a copy of the objection and the			

subject to the exceptions of the definition of rule in section 28-32-01, the agency or commission shall indicate the existence of that objection adjacent to the rule in any Within fourteen days after the filing of a committee objection to a rule, the adopting agency or commission shall respond in writing to the committee. After receipt of the response, the committee may withdraw or modify its objection. After the filing of a committee objection, the burden of persuasion is upon the agencyor commission in any action for judicial review or for enforcement of the rule toestablish that the whole or portion thereofof the rule objected to is within the procedural and substantive authority delegated to the agency or commission. If the agency or commission fails to meet its burden of persuasion, the court shall declare the whole or portion of the rule objected to invalid and judgment must be renderedagainst the agency or commission for court costs. These court costs must include a reasonable attorney's fee and must be payable from the appropriation of the agency or SECTION 21. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is-28-32-18. Administrative rules committee may void rule - Grounds - Amendment by The legislative management's administrative rules committee may find that all or any portion of a rule is void if that rule is initially considered by the committee not later thanthe fifteenth day of the month before the date of the administrative code supplement inwhich the rule change is scheduled to appear. The administrative rules committee may find a rule or portion of a rule void if the committee makes the specific finding that, with a. An absence of statutory authority under statute or the constitution.

b. An emergency relating to public health, safety, or welfare.

- 1 2 3
- AFor rules proposed by an agency, a failure to comply with express legislative intent or to substantially meet the procedural requirements of this chapter for adoption of the rule.
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- For rules proposed by the commission, a failure to substantially meet the procedural requirements for this chapter for adoption of the rule.
- 5 6
- A conflict with state law.
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- Arbitrariness and capriciousness. e.f.
- 8 9
- A failure to make a written record of its consideration of written and oral-<u>f.g.</u> submissions respecting the rule under section 28-32-11.
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- The administrative rules committee may find a rule void at the meeting at which the rule is initially considered by the committee or may hold consideration of that rule for
 - one subsequent meeting. If no representative of the agency or commission appearsbefore the administrative rules committee when rules are scheduled for committee consideration, those rules are held over for consideration at the next subsequent committee meeting. Rules are not considered initially considered by the committeeunder this subsection until a representative of the agency or commission appearsbefore the administrative rules committee when the rules are scheduled for committeeconsideration. If no representative of the agency or commission appears before the administrative rules committee meeting to which rules are held over for consideration, the rules are void if the rules were adopted as emergency rules and for rules not adopted as emergency rules the administrative rules committee may void the rules, allow the rules to become effective, or hold over consideration of the rules to the nextsubsequent committee meeting. Within three business days after the administrativerules committee finds that a rule is void, the legislative council shall provide writtennotice of that finding and the committee's specific finding under subdivisions a throughf of subsection 1 to the adopting agency or commission and to the chairman of the legislative management. Within fourteen days after receipt of the notice, the adoptingagency or commission may file a petition with the chairman of the legislative management for review by the legislative management of the decision of the administrative rules committee. If the adopting agency or commission does not file a petition for review, the rule becomes void on the fifteenth day after the notice from the

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legislative council to the adopting agency or commission. If within sixty days after receipt of the petition from the adopting agency or commission the legislativemanagement has not disapproved by motion the finding of the administrative rulescommittee, the rule is void.

3. An agency or the commission may amend or repeal a rule or create a related rule if, after consideration of rules by the administrative rules committee, the agency or commission and the committee agree that the rule amendment, repeal, or creation is necessary to address any of the considerations under subsection 1. A rule amended, repealed, or created under this subsection is not subject to the other requirements of this chapter relating to adoption of administrative rules and may be published by the legislative council as amended, repealed, or created. If requested by the agency. commission, or any interested party, a rule amended, repealed, or created under thissubsection must be reconsidered by the administrative rules committee at a subsequent meeting at which public comment on the agreed rule change must be allowed.

SECTION 19. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-18.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-18.1. Administrative rules committee review of existing administrative rules.

- Upon request by the administrative rules committee, an administrative agency or the commission shall brief the committee on its existing administrative rules and point out any provisions that appear to be obsolete and any areas in which statutory or constitutional authority has changed or been repealed since the rules were adopted or amended.
- 2. An agency or the commission may amend or repeal a rule without complying with the other requirements of this chapter relating to adoption of administrative rules and may resubmit the change to the legislative council for publication provided:
 - The agency <u>or commission</u> initiates the request to the administrative rules a. committee for consideration of the amendment or repeal;
 - The agency or commission provides notice to the regulated community, in a b. manner reasonably calculated to provide notice to those persons interested in the

1 rule, of the time and place the administrative rules committee will consider the 2 request for amendment or repeal of the rule; and 3 C. The agency or commission and the administrative rules committee agree the rule 4 amendment or repeal eliminates a provision that is obsolete or no longer in 5 compliance with law and that no detriment would result to the substantive rights 6 of the regulated community from the amendment or repeal. 7 SECTION 20. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 28-32-19 of the North Dakota 8 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows: 9 The legislative council may prescribe athe format, style, and arrangement for rules 10 which are to be published in the code and may refuse to accept the filing of any rule 11 that is not in substantial compliance therewithwith the format, style, and arrangement. 12 In arranging rules for publication, the legislative council may make such corrections in 13 spelling, grammatical construction, format, and punctuation of the rules as 14 determined the legislative council determines are proper. The legislative council shall 15 keep and maintain a permanent code of all rules filed, including superseded and 16 repealed rules, which must be open to public inspection during office hours. 17 SECTION 21. AMENDMENT. Subsection 4 of section 28-32-19 of the North Dakota 18 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows: 19 The legislative council, with the consent of the adopting agency or commission, may 20 omit from the code or code supplement any rule the publication of which would be 21 unduly cumbersome, expensive, or otherwise inexpedient, if the rule in printed or 22 duplicated form is made available on application to the agency or commission, and if 23 the code or code supplement contains a notice stating the general subject matter of 24 the omitted rule and stating how a copy may be obtained. 25 SECTION 25. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is-26 amended and reenacted as follows: 27 28-32-27. Hearing officer - Disqualification - Substitution. 28 1. Any person or persons presiding for the agency in an administrative proceeding must 29 be referred to individually or collectively as hearing officer. Any person from the office-30 of administrative hearings presiding for the agency as a hearing officer in an-

administrative proceeding must be referred to as an administrative law judge.

1 Any hearing officer is subject to disqualification for good cause shown. 2 A hearing officer who is a director, officer, commissioner, head, or other executive of 3 an agency shall self-disqualify in a proceeding in which a reasonable, disinterested 4 observer would believe the hearing officer is biased due to: 5 A contribution by one of the parties supporting the hearing officer's most recent 6 campaign for public office; or 7 An ownership interest, other than investment in a mutual fund, of the hearing 8 officer in one of the parties to the proceeding if the ownership interest is not 9 shared by the general public. 10 Any party may petition for the disqualification of any person presiding as a hearing-11 officer upon discovering facts establishing grounds for disqualification. 12 A person whose disqualification is requested shall determine whether to grant the 13 petition, stating facts and reasons for the determination. 14 If a substitute is required for a person who is disqualified or becomes unavailable for 15 any other reason, the substitute may be appointed by: 16 The attorney general, if the disqualified or unavailable person is an assistant 17 attorney general; 18 The agency head, if the disqualified or unavailable person is one or more 19 members of the agency head or one or more other persons designated by the 20 agency head: 21 A supervising hearing officer, if the disqualified or unavailable person is a hearing-22 officer designated from an office, pool, panel, or division of hearing officers; or 23 The governor, in all other cases. 24 -6.7. Any action taken by a duly appointed substitute for a disqualified or unavailable person-25 is as effective as if taken by the disqualified or unavailable person. 26 7.8. Any hearing officer in an administrative proceeding, from the time of appointment or 27 designation, may exercise any authority granted by law or rule. A hearing officer may 28 be designated to preside over the entire administrative proceeding and may issue 29 orders accordingly. A procedural hearing officer may only issue orders in regard to the 30 course and conduct of the hearing under statute or rule and to otherwise effect an-31 orderly hearing. If a procedural hearing officer is designated, the agency head must be

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present at the hearing and the agency head shall issue findings of fact and conclusions of law, as well as any order resulting from the hearing.

The North Dakota ethics commission shall assess any hearing officer who knowingly violates subsection 3 a civil penalty of five hundred dollars for the first violation. For a second and subsequent knowing violation of this section, the hearing officer is quilty of a class B misdemeanor.

SECTION 22. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-47 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

28-32-47. Scope of and procedure on appeal from agency rulemaking.

- A judge of the district court shall review an appeal from an administrative agency's or ethics commission's rulemaking action based only on the record filed with the court. If an appellant requests documents to be included in the record but the agency or commission does not include them, the court, upon application by the appellant, may compel their inclusion. After a hearing, the filing of briefs, or other disposition of the matter as the judge may reasonably require, the court shall affirm the agency'srulemaking action unless it finds that any of the following are present:
- 1. The provisions of this chapter have not been substantially complied with in the a. agency's rulemaking actions.
- 2. b. A rule published as a result of the rulemaking action appealed is unconstitutional on the face of the language adopted.
- 3. A rule published as a result of the rulemaking action appealed is beyond the <u>C.</u> scope of the agency's or commission's authority to adopt.
- 4. A rule published as a result of the rulemaking action appealed is on the face of <u>d.</u> the language adopted an arbitrary or capricious application of authority granted by statute.
- If the rulemaking action of the agency or commission is not affirmed by the court, itthe <u>2.</u> rulemaking action must be remanded to the agency or commission for disposition in accordance with the order of the court, or the rule or a portion of the rule resulting from the rulemaking action of the agency or commission must be declared invalid for reasons stated by the court.

1	SECTION 23. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-48 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2	amended and reenacted as follows:
3	28-32-48. Appeal - Stay of proceedings.
4	An appeal from an order or the rulemaking action of an administrative agency or the
5	commission does not stay the enforcement of the order or the effect of a published rule unless
6	the court to which the appeal is taken, upon application and after a hearing or the submission of
7	briefs, orders a stay. The court may impose terms and conditions for a stay of the enforcement
8	of the order or for a stay in the effect of a published rule. This section does not prohibit the
9	operation of an automatic stay upon the enforcement of an administrative order or commission
0	order as may be required by another statute.
11	SECTION 24. AMENDMENT. Section 28-32-49 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2	amended and reenacted as follows:
3	28-32-49. Review in supreme court.
4	The judgment of the district court in an appeal from an order or rulemaking action of an
5	administrative agency or the commission may be reviewed in the supreme court on appeal in
6	the same manner as provided in section 28-32-46 or 28-32-47, except that the appeal to the
7	supreme court must be taken within sixty days after the service of the notice of entry of
8	judgment in the district court. Any party of record, including the agency or commission, may
9	take an appeal from the final judgment of the district court to the supreme court. If an appeal
20	from the judgment of the district court is taken by an agency or the commission, the agency or
21	commission may not be required to pay a docket fee or file a bond for costs or equivalent
22	security.
23	SECTION 25. Chapter 54-66 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
24	follows:
25	54-66-01. Definitions.
26	As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:
27	1. "Accused individual" means an individual lobbyist, public official, candidate for public
28	office, political committee, or contributor who is alleged to have violated article XIV of
29	the Constitution of North Dakota, this chapter, or another law or rule regarding
30	government ethics transparency, corruption, elections, or lobbying.

1	<u>2.</u>	"Adjusted for inflation" means adjusted on January first of each year by the change in
2		the consumer price index for all urban consumers (all items, United States city
3		average), as identified by the secretary of state.
4	<u>3.</u>	_"Complainant" means an individual who, in writing or verbally, submits a complaint to
5	1	the commission.
6	<u>4.3.</u>	"Complaint" means a verbal or written allegation to the commission that a lobbyist,
7		public official, candidate for public office, political committee, or contributor has
8		violated article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota, this chapter, or another law or
9		rule regarding government ethics has been violated transparency, corruption, elections,
10		or lobbying.
11	<u>5.4.</u>	"Ethics commission" or "commission" means the North Dakota ethics commission
12	ı	established by article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota.
13	<u>6.5.</u>	"Gift" means any item, service, or thing of value not given in exchange for fair market
14		consideration including travel and recreation, except:
15		a. Purely informational material;
16		b. A campaign contribution; and
17		c. An item, service, or thing of value given under conditions that do not raise ethical
18		concerns, as set forth in rules adopted by the ethics commission, to advance
19		opportunities for state residents to meet with public officials in educational and
20		social settings in the state.
21	7. 6.	"Influence state government action" means promoting or opposing the final adoption of
22	ı	a rule by an administrative agency or the commission under chapter 28-32.
23	8. 7.	"Lobby" means an activity listed in subsection 1 of section 54-05.1-02.
24	9. 8.	"Lobbyist" means an individual required to register under section 54-05.1-03.
25	10. 9.	"Public official" means an elected or appointed official of the state's executive or
26		legislative branch, members of the commission, members of the governor's cabinet,
27	I	and employees of the legislative branch.
28	11. 10.	"Receives the complaint" means one or more members of the commission learn of the
29		complaint.

1	12. 11.	"Ultimate and true source" means the person that knowingly contributed over two
2		hundred dollars, adjusted for inflation, solely to lobby or influence state government
3		action.
4	<u>54-6</u>	66-02. Disclosure of ultimate and true source of funds.
5	<u>1.</u>	A lobbyist who expends an amount greater than two hundred dollars, adjusted for
6		inflation, to lobby shall file with the secretary of state a report that includes the known
7		ultimate and true source of funds for the expenditure. The report must be filed with the
8		lobbyist expenditure report required under subsection 2 of section 54-05.1-03.
9	<u>2.</u>	A person whothat expends an amount greater than two hundred dollars, adjusted for
10		inflationnot including the individual's own travel expenses and membership dues, to
11		influence state government action shall file with the secretary of state a report
12		including the known ultimate and true source of funds for the expenditure. The A report
13		under this subsection must be filed on or before the August first following the date of
14		the expenditure. The secretary of state shall provide a form for reports under this
15		subsection and make the form electronically accessible to the public. The secretary of
16		state also shall charge and collect fees for late filing of the reports as follows:
17		a. Twenty-five dollars for a report filed within sixty days after the deadline; or
18		b. Fifty dollars for a report filed more than sixty days after the deadline.
19	<u>3.</u>	The secretary of state shall compile the reports required under this section and make
20		the reports electronically accessible to the public within forty days after the deadlines
21		by which the reports must be filed.
22	<u>4.</u>	This section does not require a person to report the ultimate and true source of funds
23		expended on:
24		a. A gift to or from a family member;
25		b. Purely informational material, advice, or education;
26		c. Reimbursement for travel, meal, and refreshment expenses incurred to, from, or
27		during a conference, seminar, or other legitimate educational opportunity for a
28		public official if the conference, seminar, or educational opportunity concerns
29		issues germane to the official duties of the public official;
30		d. Meals and refreshments provided while informing, advising, or educating a public
31		official about issues germane to the official duties of the public official;

- d. Items with a fair market value of ten dollars per individual per event, adjusted for inflation, or less per individual; and
 e. A good or service determined not to raise ethical concerns under rules adopted by the ethics commission.
 - 2. The prohibition in subsection 1 does not apply when a lobbyist gives, offers, solicits, initiates, or facilitates, or a public official accepts:
 - a. A a gift to or from a family member;
 - b. Purely informational material; or
 - <u>c.</u> <u>A campaign contribution.</u>
 - 3. For the first violation, the secretary of state shall assess a civil penalty of five hundred dollars upon any person who knowingly violates this section and, if the person is a lobbyist, the secretary of state may revoke the lobbyist's registration under chapter 54-05.1. For a second and subsequent knowing violation of this section, the person is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. The secretary of state shall assess a civil penalty upon any individual who violates this section.
 - a. If the gift has a value of five hundred dollars or more, the civil penalty must be two times the value of the gift.
 - b. If the gift has a value of less than five hundred dollars, the civil penalty must be
 no less than two times the value of the gift and may be up to one thousand
 dollars.

54-66-04. Ethics commission member terms - Meetings - Code of ethics -

Compensation - InvestigatorOffice.

- The terms of the initial members of the ethics commission must be staggered to
 ensure no more than two members' terms expire in one year. The terms of the initial
 members may be less than four years to accommodate the required staggering of
 terms.
- 2. The ethics commission shall meet as necessary to address each complaint the commission receives. Unless the complaint at issue has resulted in the imposition of a penalty or referral for enforcement under section 54-66-1054-66-09, any portion of a meeting during which commission members discuss complaints, informal resolutions, attempts to informally resolve complaints, investigations, or referrals under this

- chapter, the identity of an accused individual or complainant, or any other matter
 arising from a complaint are closed meetings.
 - 3. The commission shall abide by a code of ethics adopted in a public meeting. The code of ethics must specify when a commission member is disqualified from participating in matters before the commission.
 - 4. Ethics commission members are entitled to:
 - a. Compensation for each day necessarily spent conducting commission business
 in the amount provided for members of the legislative management under section
 54-35-10; and
 - <u>b.</u> Payment for mileage and travel expenses necessarily incurred in the conduct of commission business as provided under sections 44-08-04 and 54-06-09.
 - 5. Commission members shall hire or otherwise engage a part-time administrative assistant. The administrative assistant must be provided an office within the office space for the department of labor and human rights. The commission shall compensate the department of labor and human rights for the office in an amount equal to the fair value of the office. The director of the office of management and budget shall allocate office space in the state capitol for the ethics commission, or, if office space in the capitol is unavailable, shall negotiate for, contract for, and obtain office space for the ethics commission in the city of Bismarck or in the Bismarck area. The ethics commission's office space may not be located in the office space of any other government agency, board, commission, or other governmental entity, and must provide sufficient privacy and security for the ethics commission to conduct its business. The director shall charge the ethics commission an amount equal to the fair value of the office space and related services the office of management and budget renders to the ethics commission.

<u>54-66-05. Making a complaint - Identifying information - False complaints.</u>

1. A complaint may be made to the commission orally or in writing. If a complainant does not provide the complainant's name, address, and telephone number with the complaint, the ethics commission may not investigate, refer, or take other action regarding the complaint. The commission shall summarize each oral complaint in writing unless the complaint must be disregarded under this section. When making a

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commission may engage a state agency as an investigator. If the accused individual provided a

conduct to the bureau of criminal investigation or other law enforcement agency. The

written response to the complaint, the commission shall provide the written response with the referred complaint.

3 — 54-66-09. Investigations - Findings and Recommendations - Responses.

relevant information.

participate.

1. The investigator engaged under section 54-66-08 shall investigate the complaint referred to it by the ethics commission. Investigations must include separate interviews with the accused individual and the complainant, unless the accused individual or complainant refuses to be interviewed, and consideration of the circumstances surrounding the allegations. The accused individual and complainant may be accompanied by legal counsel during the interviews of each. Investigations may include interviews of potential witnesses and other individuals believed to have

2. At the conclusion of the investigation, but no later than six months after the investigator received the complaint, the investigator shall submit its written findings from the investigation to the commission. The commission shall provide written copies of the findings to the accused individual and complainant. The accused individual and complainant may respond in writing to the findings within thirty calendar days of receiving the findings. The commission shall maintain copies of the findings and any written response to the findings.

<u>54-66-10. Final determinations - Penalties - Referrals for enforcement.</u>

accused individual or complainant, the ethics commission shall meet with the accused individual and complainant to discuss the findings and written responses. A meeting under this subsection is a closed meeting as defined in section 44-04-17.1, although the accused individual and complainant may have legal counsel attend and

After reviewing the findings from the investigator and any written response from the

2. After the meeting with the accused individual and complainant, the commission shall issue written findings, including a determination whether a violation of article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota, this chapter, or another law or rule regarding government ethics occurred. If the commission finds a violation occurred, the commission may assess a civil penalty if authorized by law or refer the matter to the entity authorized by

law to assess a civil penalty for the violation.

1	commission shall determine whether a violation of article XIV of the Constitution of
2	North Dakota, this chapter, or another law or rule regarding transparency, corruption,
3	elections, or lobbying occurred, and inform the accused individual of the
4	determination. If the commission determined a violation occurred, the commission may
5	impose a penalty authorized by law for the violation or refer the matter to the agency
6	with enforcement authority over the violation.
7	3. The commission may not terminate the employment of a public official or otherwise
8	remove a public official from the public official's public office.
9	4. The ethics commission may not reconsider, invalidate, or overturn a decision, ruling,
10	recommended finding of fact, recommended conclusion of law, finding of fact,
11	conclusion of law, or order by a hearing officer under chapter 28-32 on the grounds the
12	hearing officer failed to grant a request for disqualification under section 28-32-27 or
13	failed to comply with subsection 5 of section 2 of article XIV of the Constitution of
14	North Dakota.
15	<u>54-66-10. Appeals.</u>
16	An accused individual may appeal a finding of the ethics commission to the district court of
17	the county where the accused individual resides.
18	54-66-11. Rulemaking.
19	When adopting rules, the ethics commission shall follow the provisions in chapter 28-32
20	which are specifically applicable to the commission.
21	54-66-11.54-66-12. Confidential information - Penalty.
22	1. The following information is a confidential record as defined in section 44-04-17.1,
23	unless the commission has determined the accused individual violated article XIV of
24	the Constitution of North Dakota, this chapter, or another law or rule regarding
25	government ethicstransparency, corruption, elections, or lobbying, and a court affirmed
26	the determination if appealed, except the information may be disclosed as required by
27	law or as necessary to conduct an investigation arising from a complaint:
28	a. <u>Information revealing the contents of a complaint;</u>
29	b. Information that reasonably may be used to identify an accused individual or
30	complainant; and
31	c. Information relating to or created as part of an investigation of a complaint.

1	<u>2.</u>	If a complaint is informally resolved under section 54-66-07, the following information
2		is a confidential record as defined in section 44-04-17.1:
3		a. Information revealing the contents of the complaint;
4		b. Information that reasonably may be used to identify the accused individual-or-
5		complainant;
6		c. Information relating to or created as part of the process leading to the informal
7		resolution; and
8		d. <u>Information revealing the informal resolution.</u>
9	<u>3.</u>	Willful publication of information included in subsections 1 and 2 by a person who
10		knows the information to be false is criminal defamation under
11		section 12.1-15-01 Information that reasonably may be used to identify the complainant
12		is confidential unless the complainant waives confidentiality, authorizes its disclosure,
13		or divulges information that reasonably would identify the complainant. However, the
14		ethics commission shall notify an accused individual of the identity of the complainant
15		who made an allegation against the accused individual, and the information deemed
16		confidential under this subsection may be disclosed as required by law or as
17		necessary to conduct an investigation arising from a complaint.
18	<u>4.</u>	A public official who violates this section is guilty of a class C felony. The information
19		deemed confidential in subsections 1 and 2 may be disclosed by the ethics
20		commission if the accused individual agrees to the disclosure.
21	54-6	6-12.54-66-13. Restriction on lobbying by public officials - Penalty.
22	For t	he first violation of subsection 2 of section 2 of article XIV of the Constitution of North
23	Dakota,	the secretary of state shall assess a civil penalty of five hundred dollars upon the
24	person v	who knowingly commits the violation. For a second and subsequent knowing violation of
25	the subs	ection, the person is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. A knowing violation of
26	subsecti	on 2 of section 2 of article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota is a class A
27	misdeme	eanor. The ethics commission shall assess a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars
28	on any ir	ndividual who knowingly violates the subsection.
29	54-6	6-13. 54-66-14. Attorney general to provide legal services.
30	<u>The</u>	attorney general shall serve as legal counsel for the commission unless the
31	commiss	ion objects to representation by the attorney general in a specific matter. When a

1	conflict of interest prevents the attorney general from providing legal services to the		
2	commission, the attorney general may appoint a special assistant attorney general to serve as		
3	legal counsel for the commission.		
4	54-66-14.54-66-15. Prohibition on delivering campaign contributions - Penalty.		
5	A lobbyist may not deliver knowingly a campaign contribution made by another person in		
6	violation of subsection 3 of section 2 of article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota. For a first		
7	violation, the secretary of state shall assess a civil penalty of five hundred dollars upon any		
8	personindividual who knowingly violates this section and may revoke the lobbyist's registration.		
9	For a second and subsequent knowing violation of this section, the person is guilty of a class B		
10	misdemeanor, and, if the lobbyist is a registered lobbyist, the secretary of state may revoke the		
11	lobbyist's registration. For purposes of this section, "deliver" means to transport, transfer, or		
12	otherwise transmit, either physically or electronically. This prohibition does not apply to an		
13	individual who delivers a campaign contribution to the individual's own campaign or to the		
14	campaign of the individual's immediate family member. This prohibition may not be interpreted		
15	to prohibit any person from making a campaign contribution, encouraging others to make a		
16	campaign contribution, or otherwise supporting or opposing a candidate.		
17	54-66-16. Removal of ethics commission members.		
18	An ethics commission member may be removed from office for:		
19	a. Substantial neglect of duty;		
20	b. Gross misconduct in office;		
21	c. Violation of the commission's code of ethics; or		
22	d. Willful or habitual neglect or refusal to perform the duties of the member.		
23	2. Removal of an ethics commission member under subsection 1 requires agreement by		
24	a majority of:		
25	a. The governor;		
26	b. The majority leader of the senate; and		
27	c. The minority leader of the senate.		
28	54-66-17. Participation in quasi-judicial proceedings.		
29	For purposes of subsection 5 of section 2 of article XIV of the Constitution of North Dakota,		
30	an individual is not disqualified from participating in any capacity in a quasi-judicial proceeding,		
31	including an adjudicative proceeding under chapter 28-32, due to an investment in a mutual		

1 fund, an ownership interest in one of the parties to the proceeding which is shared by the 2 general public, and an investment or ownership interest in a retirement account of one of the 3 parties to the proceeding. 4 SECTION 26. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general 5 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$300,000\$517,155, or so 6 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the ethics commission for the purpose of the 7 operations of the commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 8 2021. The ethics commission is authorized one and one-halftwo full-time equivalent positions 9 for this purpose. 10 **SECTION 27. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Sections 4, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 71, 3, 4, and 5 of this Act, and 11 sections 54-66-02 and 54-66-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, as created by 12 section 3225 of this Act, become effective January 5, 20222021. 13 SECTION 35. EFFECTIVE DATE. North Dakota Century Code section 54-66-03, as-14 created by section 32 of this Act, becomes effective January 5, 2021. 15 SECTION 36. EXPIRATION DATE. North Dakota Century Code section 54-66-12, as-16 created by section 32 of this Act, is effective until subsection 2 of section 2 of article XIV of the 17 Constitution of North Dakota is no longer part of the Constitution of North Dakota. 18 **SECTION 28. EMERGENCY.** Sections <u>6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20,</u> 19 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31, and 24 of this Act are declared to be an 20 emergency measure.