

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

HOUSE BILL NO. 1346
(Representative Kempenich)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to working papers of higher education internal auditors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Internal auditors' working papers.

For purposes of this section, "higher education internal auditor" means an internal auditor of the North Dakota university system and the institutions under the control of the state board of higher education. Working papers of a higher education internal auditor are not public records and are exempt from section 44-04-18. Working papers include records kept by a higher education internal auditor of the procedures applied, the tests performed, the information obtained, draft audit reports, and the pertinent conclusions reached in the audit engagement. At the discretion of a higher education internal auditor, working papers of a higher education internal auditor may be made available for inspection. A draft audit report released to the governing body or management of the audited entity is confidential until the final audit report is issued or work ceases on the audit. The issued audit report is public information. The working papers of an issued audit report are public except for any information designated as confidential or exempt from disclosure by state or federal law. At the discretion of a higher education internal auditor, all or a portion of the working papers of the higher education internal auditor of an issued audit report may be declared confidential. The declaration of confidentiality must state the reason for the confidentiality and the date, as reasonably may be determined at the time, when the working papers will be made public.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1346.

House Vote: Yeas 86 Nays 8 Absent 0

Senate Vote: Yeas 45 Nays 2 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2021,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State