

# SB 2016 Conference Committee

1. **Remove FTE pool and salary hold-back provision.** While we appear to be a large agency with over 200 FTEs, from a personnel management standpoint, we are several small agencies. The Guard has 151 FTEs funded in 6 separate line items in the budget, three of those line items have less than 6 employees. **If there is no turnover, these divisions within the OTAG, will have no way to access the 6% holdback required to pay their salaries for the biennium.** Three of our salary lines have around 30 FTEs, our largest has 80 FTEs. We are creating a bureaucratic process and knowingly underfunding salaries to address a problem that has not been defined. Additionally, in hard to fill, high turnover public safety positions, like dispatchers, this may limit our ability for recruiting bonuses that may be critical to filling these public safety positions. If the intent of this measure is to do just that, we need to fully fund the equity requirements for each agency to bring turnover down to a manageable level.

*CAP*

2. **2 FTEs for watch center - \$409,260 General Funds.** Restore the Watch Center funding to the 6 FTEs in the Executive Budget Recommendation. We've been blessed (or lucky) that some of the ills experienced by other states have not found their way to North Dakota, but we would be naïve to think they won't come our way eventually. Further, we need to prepare now for the day, in the not so distance future, that public safety sensors are on our roads, our dams, our rivers and key infrastructure. We lucked out when the Bourbanis Dam failed last year. We may not be that lucky next time. Now is the time to build this capability that our citizens deserve, and our leaders need to protect lives and property.

*House cut 2*

- House* a. Watch Center with House authorized 4 FTEs:
  - i. Enables initial adoption of public safety technologies described in budget hearings.
  - ii. Provides watch center monitoring and early response during traditional business hours.
- Sen* b. Watch Center with Senate approved 6 FTEs: *at regular pay w/o overtime or comp time.*
  - i. Provides 24/7/365 monitoring, early warning, and rapid response capabilities.
  - ii. Eliminates the need for duty officers, who spend 20% of their time training & serving as duty officers.
  - iii. Eliminates overtime costs for after hours and weekend duty officer response.

3. **Restore maintenance to \$1.5M in base budget.** Below is the projected list for the 2023-25 Biennium. With over 300 facilities, it is imperative that we keep up on our deferred maintenance requirements. With a 2:1 match from the federal government, this is a cost-effective investment in our state's infrastructure. This \$1,500,000 is .17% of the \$900,000,000 replacement value of our facilities. This would be akin to a homeowner setting aside \$595 a biennium for potential maintenance on their \$350,000 home.

*House - \$1,500,000*

## Facility Maintenance Funds- \$1.5M

Description	Federal	State	Total
Roof Replacement, Minot AFRC	\$2,021,701	\$566,546	\$2,588,247
Brick/Joint & Sealant Repairs, GFK	721,000	206,217	927,217
Parking Lot Repairs, Fargo AFRC	288,039	288,039	576,078
Air Handler Replacement, CG	333,300	372,185	705,485
BAS Upgrades & HVAC Re-Balance, RUB	<u>301,537</u>	<u>301,537</u>	<u>603,074</u>
Total	<u>\$3,665,577</u>	<u>\$1,734,524</u>	<u>\$5,400,101</u>

4. **Full funding of \$300K for State Radio consoles.** The consoles are at end-of-life. Now is the time to replace all our dispatcher consoles. Currently, all repair parts are purchased from eBay, since the manufacturer no longer produces parts. This is not sustainable or cost effective. *cut 1/2 # for consoles*
5. **Add (1) FTE (custodian) for Dickinson Readiness Center** - \$41,594 (50% Gen/50% Fed). Restore facility staffing for Dickinson Readiness Center to validated requirement. *House - \$150,000*
6. **Amend Museum authorization language to carry out the legislative intent.** As we discussed in our hearings before both the Senate and House appropriations, the Military Museum will be a state project that will become part of the Heritage Center and run by the Historical society. To ensure we have both the funding and authority to carry out legislative intent, the authority to access the line of credit should be with the Historical Society, not the Adjutant General. The amendment below will allow this to happen. *House # 20M line of credit EVD - should go to Hist Society in AG*

**SECTION 7. BANK OF NORTH DAKOTA - LINE OF CREDIT - ADDITIONAL INCOME - LEGISLATIVE INTENT - MILITARY MUSEUM.** The Bank of North Dakota shall extend a line of credit to the **state historical society adjutant general** to provide funding to pay costs associated with the construction of a North Dakota military museum. The line of credit may not exceed \$20,000,000, and the interest rate associated with the line of credit must be the prevailing rate charged to North Dakota governmental entities. It is the intent of the sixty-eighth legislative assembly that the **state historical society adjutant general** request funding from the sixty-ninth legislative assembly from the legacy earnings fund to repay the line of credit. The adjutant general may accept other funds, including private and federal funds, for the construction of a North Dakota military museum during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.

7. **Natural Disaster Response and Recovery.** The initial request was to provide funding to the OTAG to take care of state responsibilities for Natural Disaster and Recovery. This could be to respond quickly when lives and property are at imminent risk, to cover state costs in a non-declared emergency, or to cover the state portion of a federally declared disaster. The current provision in SB 2016 provides for a Grant program to political sub-divisions, which was not the intent. Request that we go back to the original language (below).

**APPROPRIATION – NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY – DISASTER RELIEF FUND – ONE TIME FUNDING.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of the disaster relief fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$2,000,000 to the office of the adjutant general for the purpose of responding to and recovering from natural disasters, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act and ending June 30, 2025.

*Flood so far is under performing*

*come out of DRF*

*300  
300*