

**2021 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HB 1039**

# 2021 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1039  
1/14/2021 AM

Relating to a media room in the state capitol
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**Chairman Kasper** opened the hearing at 9:01 a.m.

Representatives	Roll Call
Representative Jim Kasper	P
Representative Ben Koppelman	P
Representative Pamela Anderson	P
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	P
Representative Karen Karls	P
Representative Scott Louser	P
Representative Jeffery J. Magrum	P
Representative Mitch Ostlie	P
Representative Karen M. Rohr	P
Representative Austen Schauer	P
Representative Mary Schneider	P
Representative Vicky Steiner	P
Representative Greg Stemen	P
Representative Steve Vetter	P

### Discussion Topics:

- Capitol media room

Due to a conflict, Chairman Kasper read testimony in favor from **Jack McDonald, ND Newspaper and Broadcasters Associations, #824.**

Chairman Kasper also read neutral testimony from **Claire Ness, Legislative Council, #760.**

**Rep. Louser** moved for a **Do Pass.** **Rep. Schneider** seconded the motion. Later they both withdrew their motions.

**Chairman Kasper** closed at 9:14 a.m.

*Carmen Hart, Committee Clerk*

Thursday, January 14, 2021

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee HB 1039
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CHAIRMAN KASPER AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

My name is Jack McDonald (Lobby ID# 129). I'm appearing on behalf of the North Dakota Newspaper Association (NDNA) and the North Dakota Broadcasters Association (NDBA). A conflict with another 9am hearing has prevented me from delivering these remarks in person. We support this bill.

The Associated Press notified the Legislative Council during the interim that it no longer wished to be in charge of the media room as mandated by Section 48-08-03, a law enacted 85 years ago and unchanged since then.

NDNA and NDBA worked with the interim Legislative Procedures and Arrangements Committee to come up with HB 1039. Our members agree with this concept.

NDNA and NDBA prepared printed media credentials for this session and has been working with the media regarding space in the room, use of the broadcast studio, etc. It's working well.

We urge a DO PASS on HB 1039.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I'd be happy to answer any questions.



# North Dakota Legislative Council

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff  
LC# 21.9604.01000  
January 2021

## **TESTIMONY - HOUSE BILL NO. 1039 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS JANUARY 14, 2021**

Respectfully submitted by Claire Ness, Counsel, Legislative Council

This neutral testimony provides information regarding House Bill No. 1039 (2021), which was introduced by the Legislative Management at the request of the 2019-20 Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee. House Bill No. 1039 amends North Dakota Century Code Section 48-08-03 to place the North Dakota Newspaper Association and North Dakota Broadcasters Association jointly in charge of the media room in the Capitol. In the past, a correspondent of the Associated Press held responsibility for the media room, but the Associated Press indicated it no longer wishes to have that responsibility. The North Dakota Broadcasters Association and North Dakota Newspaper Association agreed to share responsibility for the media room and offered the language in the bill to the Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee.

House Bill No. 1039 also replaces the phrase "accredited representatives of daily and other newspapers and full-time correspondents of accredited press associations" with the phrase "the media." Like the Associated Press correspondent in the past, the North Dakota Newspaper Association and North Dakota Broadcasters Association will have discretion over which individuals and organizations may use the media room. During the Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee discussion regarding the bill, testimony was received indicating the media room is intended to serve as a space for statehouse correspondents rather than free office space for all reporters and correspondents.

# 2021 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1039  
1/15/2021

Relating to a media room in the state capitol
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**Chairman Kasper** opened the committee work meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Representatives	Roll Call
Representative Jim Kasper	P
Representative Ben Koppelman	P
Representative Pamela Anderson	P
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	P
Representative Karen Karls	P
Representative Scott Louser	P
Representative Jeffery J. Magrum	P
Representative Mitch Ostlie	P
Representative Karen M. Rohr	P
Representative Austen Schauer	P
Representative Mary Schneider	P
Representative Vicky Steiner	P
Representative Greg Stemen	P
Representative Steve Vetter	A

### Discussion Topics:

- Reconsideration

**Rep. Louser** moved to **reconsider the bill**. **Rep. Ostlie** seconded the motion. **Voice vote. Motion passes.**

**Rep. Schneider** moved to **adopt an amendment to add an emergency clause**. **Rep. Steiner** seconded the motion. **Voice vote. Motion passes.**

**Rep. Louser** moved **Do Pass as amended**. **Rep. Schneider** seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Jim Kasper	Y
Representative Ben Koppelman	Y
Representative Pamela Anderson	Y
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	Y
Representative Karen Karls	Y
Representative Scott Louser	Y
Representative Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Representative Mitch Ostlie	Y
Representative Karen M. Rohr	Y
Representative Austen Schauer	Y
Representative Mary Schneider	Y
Representative Vicky Steiner	Y

Representative Greg Stemen	Y
Representative Steve Vetter	A

**Motion passes.** 13-0-1. **Rep. Hoverson** is the carrier.

**Chairman Kasper** ended the meeting at 9:57 a.m.

*Carmen Hart, Committee Clerk*

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Title.02000

Adopted by the Government and Veterans  
Affairs Committee

January 15, 2021

DO 1/15/21  
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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1039

Page 1, line 2, after "capitol" insert "; and to declare an emergency"

Page 1, after line 11, insert:

**"SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency  
measure."

Renumber accordingly

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1039: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Kasper, Chairman)**  
recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends  
**DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1039 was placed  
on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 2, after "capitol" insert "; and to declare an emergency"

Page 1, after line 11, insert:

**"SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency  
measure."

Renumber accordingly



**2021 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**HB 1039**

# 2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Room JW216, State Capitol

HB 1039  
2/12/2021

<b>Relating to a media room in the state capitol; declare emergency.</b>
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**Chair Vedaa** opened the hearing at 10:30 a.m. with Sen Vedaa, Meyer, Elkin, K Roers, Wobbema, Weber, and Marcellais present.

### Discussion Topics:

- Rule on Media Room
- Equipment updates

**Claire Ness – Legislative Council – legal** - testified neutral, explained the bill

**Jack McDonald – ND Newspaper and ND Broadcasters Associations – testified in support**

**Sen Wobbema moves Do Pass**

**Sen Meyer seconded the motion**

**Roll Call Vote: 7 -- YES 0 -- NO -0-ab Motion Passed**

Senators	Vote
Senator Shawn Vedaa	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Jay R. Elkin	Y
Senator Richard Marcellais	Y
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Mark F. Webber	Y
Senator Michael A. Wobbema	Y

**Sen Meyer will carry the bill**

Adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

*Pam Dever, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1039**, as engrossed: **Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Vedaa, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1039 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.