

**2023 HOUSE JUDICIARY**

**HB 1311**

# 2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Judiciary Committee**  
Room JW327B, State Capitol

HB 1311  
1/25/2023

Relating to representation on legislative management; to provide an effective date; and to declare an emergency
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Chairman Klemin opened the hearing on HB 1311 at 9:35 AM. Members present: Chairman Klemin, Vice Chairman Karls, Rep. Bahl, Rep. Christensen, Rep. Cory, Rep. Henderson, Rep. S. Olson, Rep. Rios, Rep. S. Roes Jones, Rep. Satrom,, Rep. Schneider, Rep. VanWinkle, Rep. Vetter

## **Discussion Topics:**

- Gender issues
- Women in Chairmanships.
- Legislative management membership.
- Amendment

Rep. Steiner: Introduced the bill. Testimony #16697, #16789

Hearing closed at 10:12 AM

Delores Shimek, Committee Clerk

# 2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Judiciary Committee**  
Room JW327B, State Capitol

HB 1311  
1/25/2023

Relating to representation on legislative management; to provide an effective date; and to declare an emergency
---

Chairman Klemin opened the meeting on HB 1311 at 2:52 PM. Members present: Chairman Klemin, Vice Chairman Karls, Rep. Bahl, Rep. Christensen, Rep. Cory, Rep. Henderson, Rep. S. Olson, Rep. Rios, Rep. S. Roers Jones, Rep. Satrom, Rep. Schneider, Rep. VanWinkle, Rep. Vetter

## Discussion Topics:

- Concept of seniority
- Legislative management history
- Rules committee selection
- House rules
- Proposed language

Chairman Klemin: Explained the legislative management process and how this bill would change it.

Rep. Shannon Roers Jones: Language suggested: Related to the committee chairs individuals of the same sex could not chair more than 80% appointed to be on legislative management maybe persons of the same sex.

Rep. Vetter moved a Do Not Pass;  
Seconded by Rep. Bahl

<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Representative Lawrence R. Klemin	Y
Representative Karen Karls	Y
Representative Landon Bahl	Y
Representative Cole Christensen	Y
Representative Claire Cory	Y
Representative Donna Henderson	N
Representative SuAnn Olson	N
Representative Nico Rios	Y
Representative Shannon Roers Jones	N
Representative Bernie Satrom	Y
Representative Mary Schneider	N
Representative Lori VanWinkle	N
Representative Steve Vetter	Y

House Judiciary Committee

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Roll Call Vote: 8 Yes 5 No 0 Absent Motion carried.

Carrier: Rep. Cory

Hearing closed at 3:27 PM.

Delores Shimek, Committee Clerk

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1311: Judiciary Committee (Rep. Klemin, Chairman)** recommends **DO NOT PASS** (8 YEAS, 5 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1311 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

**TESTIMONY**

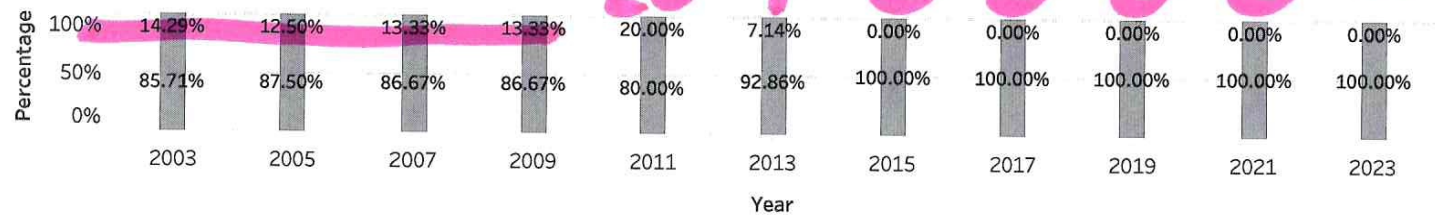
**HB 1311**

#1

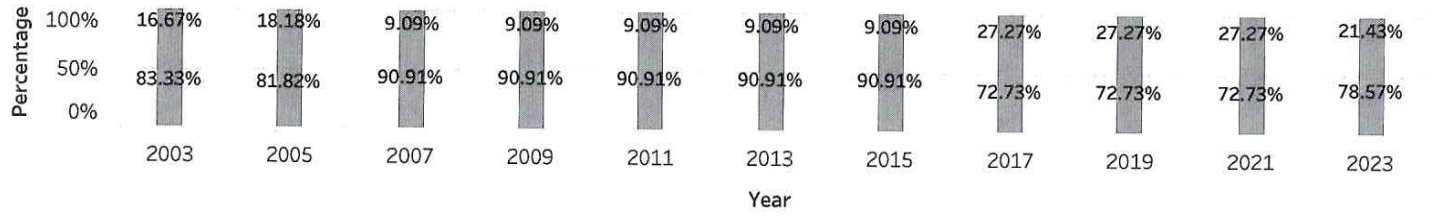
# North Dakota Legislative Assembly Chairmen and Vice Chairmen by Gender: 2003-2023

Gender  
Female  
Male

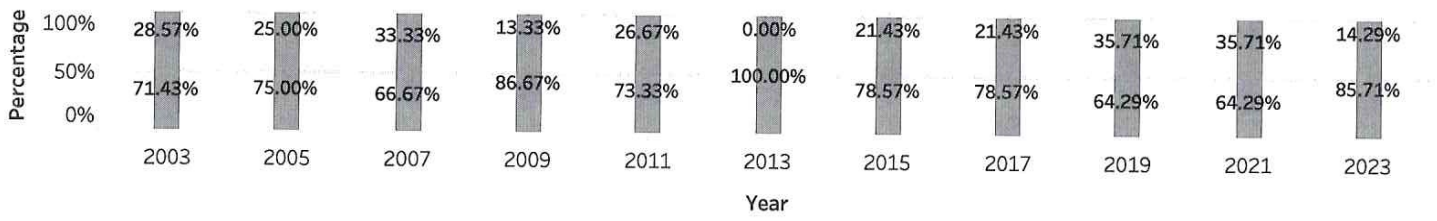
## House Chairmen



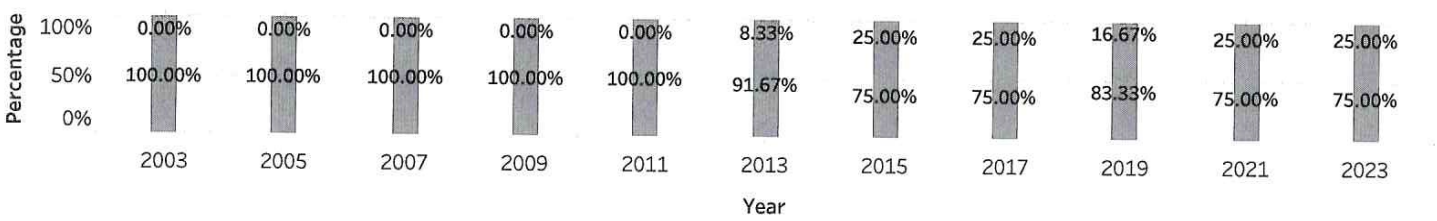
## Senate Chairmen



## House Vice Chairmen

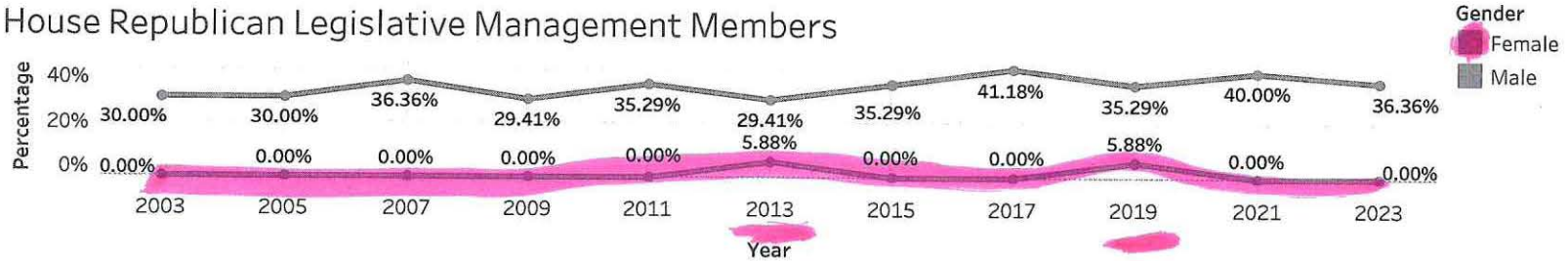


## Senate Vice Chairmen



# Legislative Management Membership by Political Party, Chamber, and Gender: 2003-2023

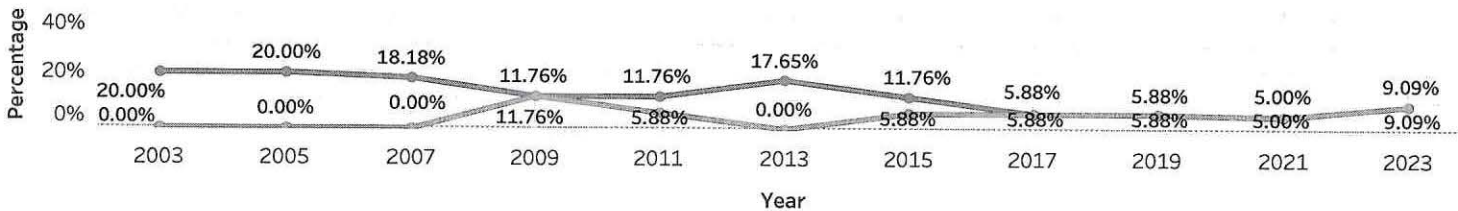
## House Republican Legislative Management Members



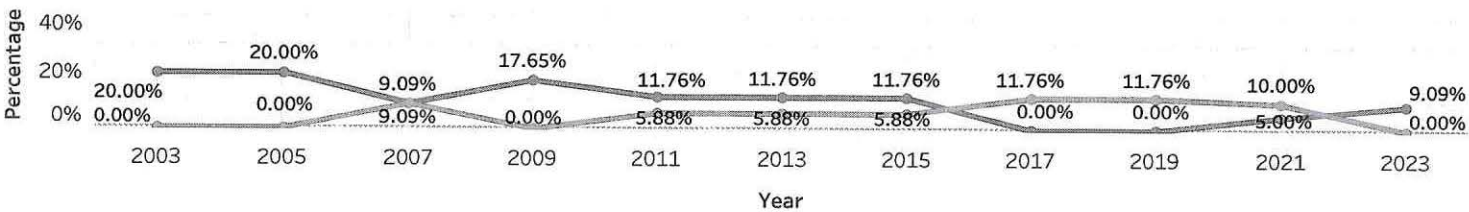
## Senate Republican Legislative Management Members



## House Democratic-NPL Legislative Management Members



## Senate Democratic-NPL Legislative Management Members







Good morning, Mr. Chairman Klemin, vice chair Karls and Judiciary committee,

Vicky Steiner, District 37, Dickinson.

This bill ensures some of the women from the majority party in the house have a future opportunity for chairmanships and legislative management.

The veteran legislators are likely aware of this but for those who are new to this process or to listening, I'll briefly cover how it works.

Legislators send in a preference for their choices of committees. The majority leader ultimately chooses the chairman of the regular session legislative committees and legislative management is a position chosen from all the republicans for those seats.

We have something called Committee on committees that meets to put legislators on the various committees. There's Appropriations which meets every day. There are A committees that meet Monday–Wednesday. Education, Finance and Taxation, Human Services, Industry, Business and this committee Judiciary. Then there are B committees that meet Thursday and Friday. Transportation, Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources, Government and Veterans Affairs, Political Subdiv

Over the past 20 years, there was one session, 2011, when there were 2 women chairs according to research from the library in Legislative council.

The two chairs were the late Rae Ann Kelsch of Education and Bette Grande of GVA.

If you look at Exhibit #1, beginning in 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2023 have no women chairs though there are senior Republican women with more experience than junior men legislators who have advanced into these chair spots.

Our current GVA committee has a male chairman who's first session on GVA was 2019. He has served as vice chair of GVA. Serving on this session's GVA committee are two women who were elected in 2010, the women have eight years more experience and both served as vice chair in GVA. Both were passed over.

Ultimately it was the leader's decision who moves to the various committees. This leader we know is exactly like the other two leaders I've served under. They pick their own team, their own group of men who are their friends. They might golf together, they eat out together, they trust each other.

The current GVA chair is a friend of the leader and actively helped him campaign for leader.

This is exactly what the previous leaders have done as well in my experience. This session was new. The chairmen meet with the leader once a week, likely in the early morning, and it's all their voices in the room.

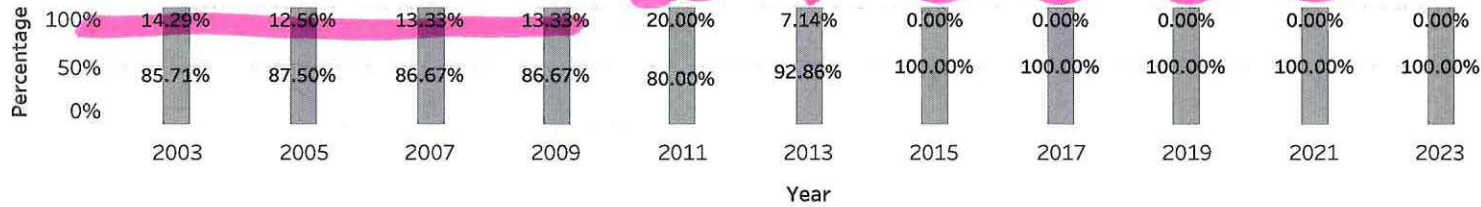
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# North Dakota Legislative Assembly Chairmen and Vice Chairmen by Gender: 2003-2023

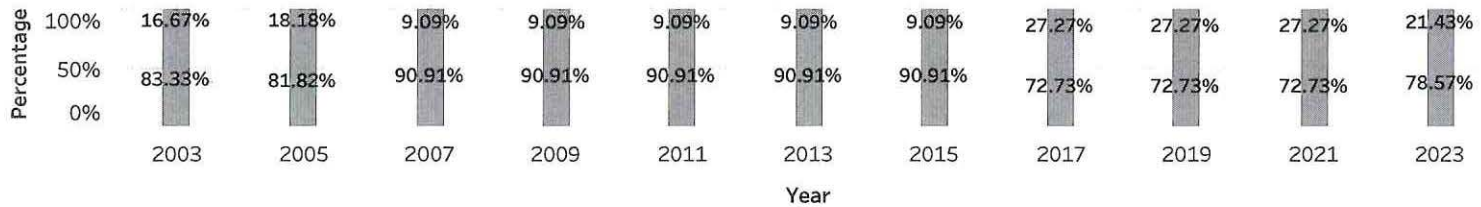
Gender  
Female  
Male

## House Chairmen

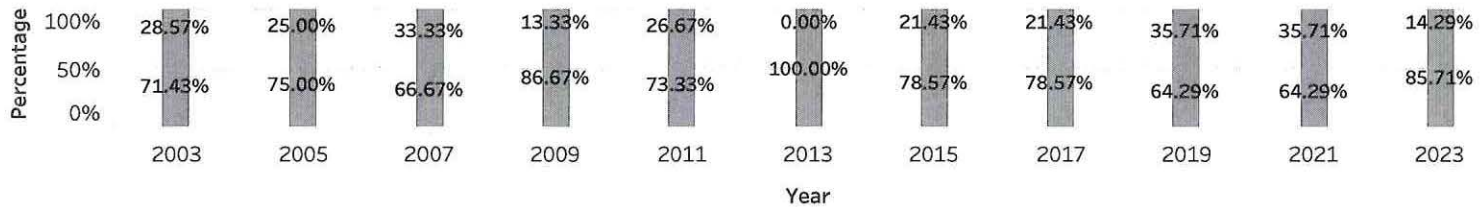
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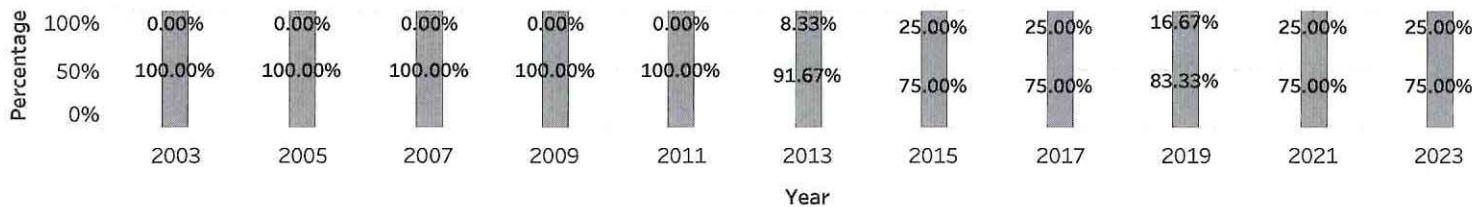
## Senate Chairmen



## House Vice Chairmen



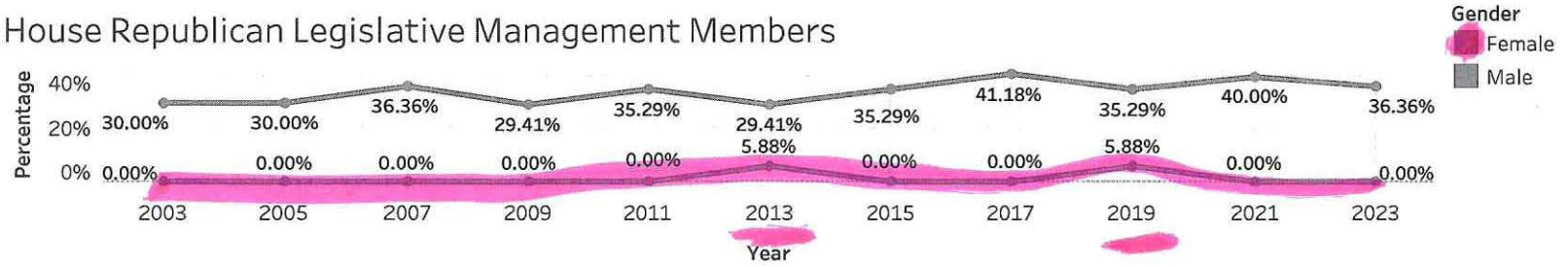
## Senate Vice Chairmen



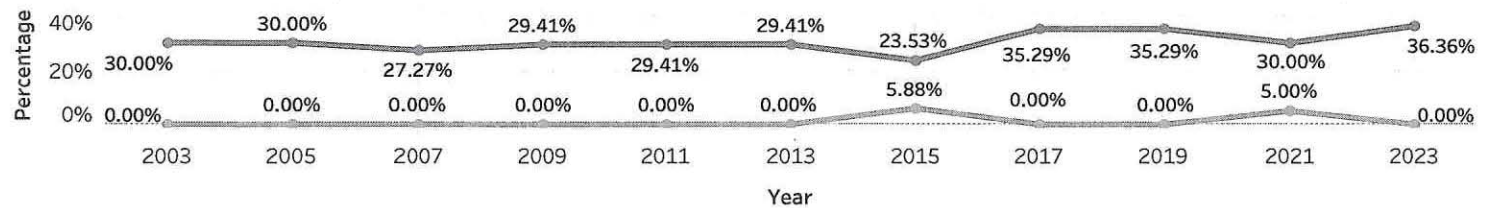
Rep. Steiner  
HB-1311

# Legislative Management Membership by Political Party, Chamber, and Gender: 2003-2023

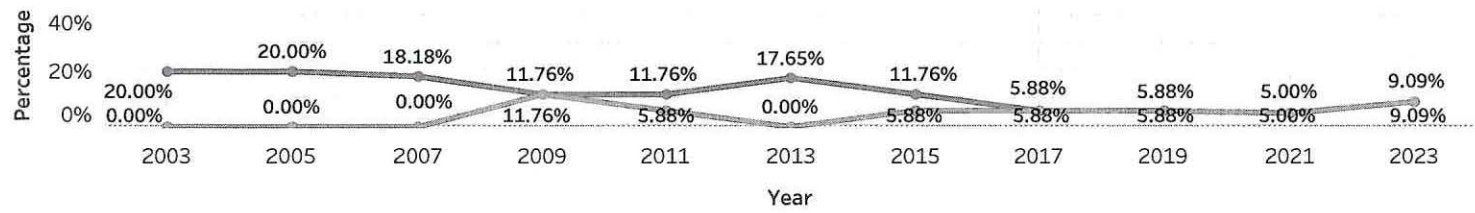
## House Republican Legislative Management Members



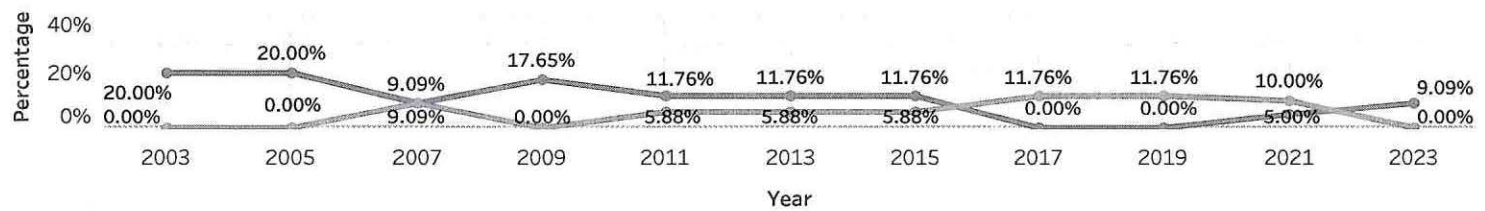
## Senate Republican Legislative Management Members



## House Democratic-NPL Legislative Management Members



## Senate Democratic-NPL Legislative Management Members



*Rep. Steiner  
HB-1311*