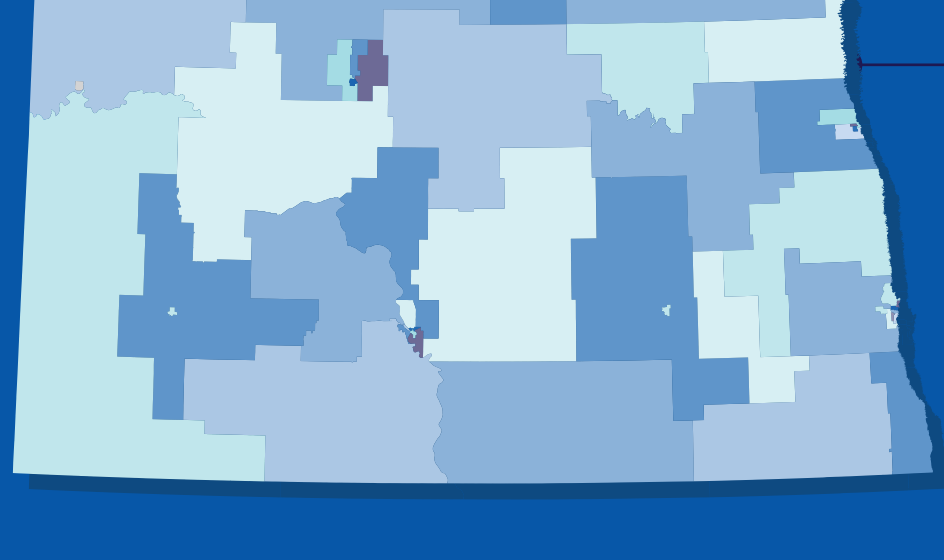


MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

A Guide to the North Dakota Legislature

HOW THE LEGISLATURE WORKS



47
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

District boundaries change with the U.S. Census



EACH STATE

LEGISLATOR MUST BE:

- ✓ a United States citizen,
- ✓ at least 18 years of age on or before the election date,
- ✓ a resident of North Dakota for one year prior to the election,
- ✓ and a qualified elector of the legislative district.



NORTH DAKOTA ELECTS **47** AND **94**

SENATORS

REPRESENTATIVES

LEGISLATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR

DEBATING THE MERITS OF BILLS



DRAFTING AND INTRODUCING BILLS



VOTING TO PASS OR KILL BILLS



ELECTIONS IN DISTRICTS ARE STAGGERED. HALF THE DISTRICTS HAVE ELECTIONS EVERY 2 YEARS.

⌚ ALL LEGISLATORS SERVE 4 YEAR TERMS

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



ELECTED OFFICIALS



CONSTITUENTS

⊖ If legislators don't hear from you, they assume you approve of their actions.



FIRST THINGS FIRST,
RESEARCH YOUR LEGISLATOR

WWW.LEGIS.ND.GOV

WAYS TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR



CALL THEM OR WRITE THEM



✓ TIP 1

Know your district and name of your legislator

✓ TIP 4

Make it short and sweet and get to your point quickly

✓ TIP 2

Plan out what you will say

✓ TIP 5

Tell a personal story they can connect to

✓ TIP 3

Remember to mention the bill number (if there is one) and why you are calling or writing

✓ TIP 6

Problem, solution, action (i.e. "Vote yes on HB xxxx!")



MEET THEM IN PERSON



STEP ONE
Schedule your meeting



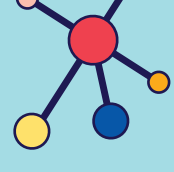
STEP TWO
Be flexible and patient



STEP THREE
Prepare and educate yourself and establish a clear goal



STEP FOUR
Follow up and say thank you!



CONNECT WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS
EARLY AND OFTEN

IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY



WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SPREAD THE WORD

Talk with friends and family on social media or in person. Don't be afraid to talk politics, it's important.



WRITE AN OP-ED



JOIN A CAUSE OR ORGANIZATION

ATTEND LEGISLATIVE SPONSORED EVENTS ☕



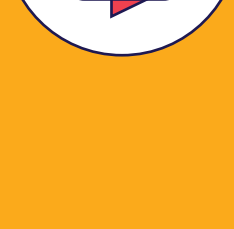
PUBLIC MARCH OR PROTEST

WHY IS SHARING YOUR STORY IMPORTANT?

START IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS



PERSONAL STORIES
MAKE AN IMPACT



OPEN THE DOOR
TO LASTING CHANGE

SHOWING UP IS VITAL. NO MATTER HOW YOU DO IT.

Your efforts, stories, and voices are what will chip away at the boulder of inequality.

ACLU
North Dakota