LEGISLATIVE X REPORT Signal States of the st



HOW THEY VOTED | 2023





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MEET THE GNIDS LEGISLATIVE TEAM

Arik Spencer CEO and President

The 68th Legislative Session was a success for North Dakota's business community, and the work of GNDC and our members is a big reason why. We came prepared with a clear pro-business agenda, which was achieved while fighting off bills that would have jeopardized North Dakota's economic future. These victories are ones the legislature can be proud of, with the passage of forward-looking legislation helping to address workforce issues, grow our economy, and improve our communities. Thank you to Chamber Champions in the legislature, who were vital in keeping North Dakota a preferred place for business leaders to invest and innovate, creating opportunities and prosperity for **North Dakota.**



Amanda Remynse

Vice President, Operations & Outreach

Legislative Session is about agendas and relationships. GNDC deployed both. We held the line for business and collaborated with both partners and legislators that understand that when business is allowed to work, our state prospers.

Andrea Pfennig

Director of Government Affairs

The results of the legislative session demonstrate once again that North Dakota is open for business. This session included an influx of new legislators and new ideas. All 990 bills were carefully considered from a business climate perspective. From childcare to immigration, we were proud to work with our members to illustrate the potential impacts of bills and unintended consequences. Whether it was killing, passing, or amending bills, GNDC focused on results and saw things to the finish line. Because, when the business community is successful, everyone wins.

2023 SCORECARD

GNDC holds legislators accountable by scrutinizing their voting performance – because that's the truest definition of just where they stand. GNDC selects business-related bills and compiles scores based on alignment with our priorities. Good bills that promote free market values and grow business receive a higher score. Bills that create overreaching regulation and harm our economy are penalized. This objective score solidifies a legislator's priorities.

METHODOLOGY: Lawmakers that vote in alignment with GNDC stances receive higher scores as voting with GNDC results in garnering positive points while voting contrarily provides penalty. Further alignment is rewarded as certain bills and bill sponsorship are weighted according to importance to the business community.

Also included is the Lifetime Score. This cumulative score examines completed legislative sessions within the career of that legislator and has been compiled from previous GNDC voting records.

GRADING SCALE							
A+	99 – 100%						
Α	90 – 98%						
В	85 – 89%						
B-	80-84%						
С	70 – 79%						
D	60 – 69%						
F	0 – 59%						

CHAMBER CHAMPIONS: Legislators who received an index score of 85% or higher are designated as Chamber Champions. These are individuals who understand ongoing issues businesses face and in voting to support business are supported by GNDC.

GNDC reserves the right to withhold or withdraw "Chamber Champion" distinction from a legislator for unethical or improper conduct. Champion status does not necessarily signify a GNDC endorsement for future elections, but the title can be used as a distinction.



POLICY GOALS

WORKFORCE

Accelerate the creation and implementation of workforce solutions designed to enhance strengths and resolve weaknesses impacting development of North Dakota's business community.

BUSINESS CLIMATE

Protect and improve North Dakota's business climate through common-sense regulatory policy that is consistent, an equitable and competitive tax structure, and strategic investments in economic development.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Promote smart approaches to regulation and investment in infrastructure specific to transportation, energy, water, and connectivity, to best support the needs of business.

GNDC FOR WIN

PRO-BUSINESS POLICIES BENEFIT NORTH DAKOTA

GNDC's work extends across all industry sectors and we fought for legislation that would benefit the greater good. These session wins are not just our wins in the advocacy arena but are wins for the business community because they promote conditions that encourage our economy development. These listed are among our favorites & were ones that we stood up for.

These bills, along with those that we defeated, were used to determine each legislator's vote index and sort our champions from the rest.

NDDOT FEDERAL FUNDS ACCESS

Provides NDDOT the authority to apply for funding from any federal agency, versus only the Federal Highway Administration. **HB 1102**

AUTOMATION TAX CREDIT

Specific to manufacturing and animal agriculture, provides \$3M per year for business tax credits of up to 15% of the cost of the qualifying equipment. \$500K is reserved for new users. Removed sunset. **HB 1168**

CTE LINE OF CREDIT

Permits Bank of North Dakota to temporarily fund construction of Career & Technical Education Centers which will be replenished with ARPA dollars. **HB 1199**

CAREER EXPLORATION SOFTWARE

Incorporates virtual reality innovation into current state-offered career exploration software. **HB 1232**

BAN THE BAN

Prevents a political subdivision from disallowing connection/reconnection of utilities services based on fuel source. **HB 1234**

EMPLOYMENT INCOME TAX CREDIT

Provides employers with a 25% tax credit, up to \$6K, on wages per year for a developmentally disabled worker. **HB 1244**

REN ZONE REAUTHORIZATION

Enables communities to reinstate a Renaissance Zone that may have expired to redevelop commercial property, providing income tax & property tax incentives. **HB 1266**

OIL TAX TRIGGER

Stabilizes state tax policy by removing the potential for a 20% increase in the oil extraction tax rate based on the price of oil exceeding certain thresholds. **HB 1286**

APPRENTICESHIP SCHOLARSHIPS

Allows a ND high school graduate, with the ND State Scholarship, to cover expenses while participating in a registered apprenticeship program. **HB 1382**

APPRENTICESHIP TAX CREDIT

Enables employer to receive a 10% tax credit for salary stipends paid to a qualified apprentice. Limit of 5 apprentices per business at a time. \$3,000 limit. **HB 1383**

BIOSCIENCE

Creates a tax exemption for raw materials, systems, and select supplies used for biologic manufacturing. Requires a usage and impact report. 6-year sunset. **HB 1455**

UAS GRANTS

Provides funds to CTE and Agriculture
Departments for UAS, autonomous vehicle,
or other autonomous technology grants. CTE
grants will go to a workforce training center
and the Ag Dept. grants will be used to inspect,
operate, maintain, or construction of agriculture
property or infrastructure. **HB 1519**

CHILDCARE

Aimed to address the workforce challenge, this bill provides \$65.6 million to increase availability, affordability, & quality of childcare in the state. Specific dollars were set aside for an employer match program. **HB 1540**

FLEXIBLE TRANSPORTATION FUND

Provides NDDOT with the flexible funds and ability to respond to unanticipated opportunities, including economic development projects. NDDOT budget (HB 1012), now directs 50% of the motor vehicle excise tax to this fund. **SB 2113**

OFFICE OF LEGAL IMMIGRATION

Establishes an Office of Legal Immigration within the Dept of Commerce (HB 1018). Provides a resource to businesses trying to address workforce needs by employing immigrants. **SB 2142**

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Provides for a study of the background check process and funds for system improvements. Background check backlogs impede the employment process, especially in the childcare sector. **SB 2238**

BASE RETENTION

Provides \$1M to Minot, Fargo, and Grand Forks to support ongoing military efforts. Military bases are an important component to the economic wellbeing of these communities. **\$B 2240**

GNDC watches specific state government agency appropriations - Dept of Commerce and NDDOT, for example. Their work impacts our members and are GNDC priorities. Programs of interest include but are not limited to Operation Intern, Career Builders, BND, Clean Sustainable Energy Authority, research, and infrastructure investments. Due to the nature of these bills coupled with the ability of legislators to make individual impacts - we do not score these voting actions.

GNDC'S DEFENSE

N HEADLAND N HEILMAN N HEINERT N HENDERSON N OLSON, J. N OLSON, S. N OSTLIE N PORTER

--SPEAKER---N JOHNSON, D.

N WEISZ

BECAUSE DEFEATING A BAD BILL BECOMES A BIGGER PRIORITY

GNDC's government affairs team succeeded in defeating numerous anti-business proposals, including attempts to mandate healthcare coverage, implement government overreach, and increase business operating costs. We opposed these bills because they posed a threat to North Dakota's business climate.

EMINENT DOMAIN

Increased the assessment by 33% for property taken through the eminent domain process. Dramatically increasing the cost for infrastructure buildout in our state. **HB 1384**

HIGHWAY LOGO SIGNS

Would have instituted a highway logo program putting the state in direct competition with the private sector for advertising dollars. **HB 1394**

PAID FAMILY LEAVE

Attempted to allow employees to opt a business into the program, requiring employers grant 12 weeks of leave for a physical or mental health condition of the employee or family member without verification from a medical provider. **HB 1460**

DRIVER'S LICENSE ELIGIBILITY

Creating additional red tape, this bill would have prevented specific legal refugees (Humanitarian Parolees) from obtaining a driver's license – immobilizing a legal workforce. **HB 1493**

PAID FAMILY LEAVE STUDY

Would have studied how to implement a paid family leave program in the state, including consideration of possible eligibility requirements and employer participation. **SCR 4018**

MINIMUM WAGE

This bill would have established a minimum wage mandate of \$9/ hour, with an automatic annual increase of \$.25 in perpetuity. **HB 1507**

EMPLOYEE LICENSE

Required every private employer to obtain a license to hire workforce and e-verify each potential employee. Failure to comply would result in penalties, fees, and potential closure of business, increasing costs and regulatory burdens. **HB 1527**

DRUG PRICE FIXING

Mandate price controls on prescription drugs, infringing on free market principles and impacting health insurance costs. **SB 2031**

WORKERS COMP RETIREES

Retroactive to 1995, this eliminated the retirement presumption and would costing WSI \$100M going forward. Further creating additional benefit coverage and premium increases for employers. **SB 2218**

VACCINE BAN

Would have prohibited a business from requiring any workforce vaccinations regardless of industry or setting. Provisions already exist in state law to opt-out for various reasons. **HB 1505**



Bill signing of HB 1540 - supporting childcare and workforce.

NEUTRALIZED

Not every bad bill dies, as long as they do not harm our members and do not pose an unintended consequence – we can be "okay" with their passing. We work with legislators to amend bad bills to remove threats. Sometimes winning is making sure that the business community doesn't lose.

B 2066 R 1158

TAX RELIEF: Both aimed at providing tax relief. However, both were amended to tax centrally assessed property at a higher rate. Centrally assessed property includes railroads, pipelines, and other critical infrastructure to the state. SB 2066 was killed, HB 1158 was amended to provide \$515M in overall relief, including a \$500 tax credit for primary residences and income tax relief for individuals.

B 134

STATE PURCHASING CONTRACTS: The original bill would have required all contracts between a state entity and a vendor to include a provision indicating the vendor's support of the state's agriculture and energy industries, regardless of the good or service being purchased—creating vague red tape burdens for business. As passed, the state may give priority to companies that support the state's agriculture and energy industries.

IB 1361

THE DEFINITION OF PERSON: Along with governmental entities, environmental elements, artificial intelligence, animals, and inanimate objects, this would have excluded corporations from being defined as a person and impacted a significant amount of existing law. References to corporations and governmental entities were amended out of the bill.

B 214(

INSULIN PRICE FIXING: As originally proposed, it would have mandated price controls for insulin of employer sponsored health insurance, without regard to premium increases. This was amended to be applicable only to state government health insurance (PERS).

3 2274

PROHIBITION ON VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS: This bill would have restricted an employer's ability to require vaccines. In amended form, businesses may not require customers to show proof of vaccination authorized by the FDA under emergency use authorization.

B 2371

THE PROHIBITION OF PROPERTY BY A FOREIGN ADVERSARY: This bill would have prohibited the purchase/holding of property by a foreign business that is headquartered, held or controlled (directly or indirectly) by a foreign adversary nation or majority owned or controlled by citizens of a foreign adversary. It was amended to provide clarity regarding which entities are impacted, include a process for divestiture, a sunset, and an interim study.

BUSINESS BIPARTISANSHIP



SEAL OF BUSINESS BIPARTISANSHIP

In examining the pro-business bills on the scorecard, these legislators have a pattern of reaching across the aisle to successfully work for business. They sponsored or co-sponsored bills looking for solutions versus seeking only party endorsement. **GNDC** is excited to acknowledge their effort with a seal of business bipartisanship, independent of their voting index.

49 REPRESENTATIVEJOSHUA BOSCHEE49 REPRESENTATIVEJIM JONAS

3 REPRESENTATIVE
ALISA MISTKOG
REPRESENTATIVE
MIKE NATHE

PREPRESENTATIVE
EMILY O'BRIEN
PREPRESENTATIVE
CINDY SCHREIBER-BECK

2 SENATOR
KATHY HOGAN
2 SENATOR
CURT KREUN

2023 HOW THEY VOTED SENATE

For a detailed breakdown of each legislator's voting record, visit **NDHowTheyVoted.com**. Legislators who earned a Chamber Champion distinction have **scores noted in orange**, those that scored **100%** are highlighted in blue.

Party	Dist.	Vote Index	Grade	Lifetime Score	# of Sessions
R	7	97%	Α	97%	1
R	43	100%	A+	100%	1
R	23	74%	С	74%	1
R	1	100%	A+	96%	5
R	33	77%	С	77%	1
D	10	74%	С	74%	1
R	5	100%	A+	93%	7
R	35	90%	Α	90%	1
R	16	90%	А	89%	4
R	12	100%	A+	99%	2
R	41	87%	В	92%	5
R	32	90%	Α	89%	12
R	47	81%	B-	87%	3
R	36	79%	С	90%	3
R	28	98%	Α	91%	12
R	15	87%	В	87%	1
D	21	81%	B-	65%	7
R	38	100%	A+	85%	8
R	4	88%	В	95%	4
R	39	100%	A+	100%	1
R	14	100%	A+	92%	14
R	40	100%	A+	94%	18
R	42	90%	Α	94%	6
	R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R	R 7 R 43 R 23 R 1 R 33 D 10 R 5 R 35 R 16 R 16 R 12 R 41 R 32 R 47 R 36 R 28 R 15 D 21 R 38 R 14 R 39 R 14 R 40	Party Dist. Index R 43 100% R 23 74% R 1 100% R 33 77% D 10 74% R 5 100% R 16 90% R 12 100% R 41 87% R 32 90% R 47 81% R 36 79% R 28 98% R 15 87% D 21 81% R 38 100% R 4 88% R 39 100% R 14 100% R 40 100%	Party Dist. Index Grade R 7 97% A R 43 100% A+ R 1 100% A+ R 33 77% C D 10 74% C R 5 100% A+ R 16 90% A R 12 100% A+ R 41 87% B R 32 90% A R 36 79% C R 36 79% C R 28 98% A R 15 87% B D 21 81% B- R 38 100% A+ R 4 88% B R 39 100% A+ R 14 100% A+ R 40 100% A+	Party Dist. Index Grade Score R 7 97% A 97% R 43 100% A+ 100% R 1 100% A+ 96% R 33 77% C 77% D 10 74% C 74% R 5 100% A+ 93% R 16 90% A 89% R 12 100% A+ 99% R 41 87% B 92% R 32 90% A 89% R 47 81% B- 87% R 36 79% C 90% R 28 98% A 91% R 15 87% B 87% D 21 81% B- 65% R 38 100% A+ 85% </td

Denotes Business Bipartisanship

Name of			Vote		Lifetime	# of
Legislator	Party	Dist.	Index	Grade	Score	Sessions
Larsen, Doug	R	34	83%	B-	92%	2
Larson, Diane	R	30	77%	С	87%	7
Lee, Judy	R	13	100%	A+	90%	15
Lemm, Randy	R	20	84%	B-	95%	3
Luick, Larry	R	25	84%	B-	83%	7
Magrum, Jeffrey	R	8	39%	F	48%	4
Mathern, Tim	D	11	74%	С	63%	19
Meyer, Scott	R	18	100%	A+	97%	4
Myrdal, Janne	R	19	81%	B-	88%	4
Patten, Dale	R	26	100%	A+	98%	3
Paulson, Bob	R	3	87%	В	79%	3
Piepkorn, Merrill	D	44	84%	B-	72%	4
Roers, Jim	R	46	99%	A+	93%	4
Roers, Kristin	R	27	98%	А	98%	3
Rummel, Dean	R	<i>37</i>	100%	A+	100%	1
Rust, David	R	2	79%	С	86%	8
Schaible, Donald	R	31	90%	Α	88%	7
Sickler, Jonathan	R	17	94%	Α	94%	1
Sorvaag, Ron	R	45	84%	B-	90%	7
Vedaa, Shawn	R	6	82%	B-	90%	4
Wanzek, Terry	R	29	100%	A+	92%	14
Weber, Mark	R	22	83%	B-	90%	2
Weston, Kent	R	9	90%	А	90%	1
Wobbema, Mike	R	24	97%	Α	99%	2

2023 HOUSE

For a detailed breakdown of each legislator's voting record, visit NDHowTheyVoted.com.

Name of Legislator	Party	Dist.	Vote Index	Grade	Lifetime Score	# of Sessions
Anderson, Bert	R	2	92%	Α	90%	5
Anderson, Dick	R	6	100%	A+	88%	7
Anderson, Karen	R	19	87%	В	87%	1
Bahl, Landon	R	17	91%	Α	91%	1
Bellew, Larry	R	38	60%	D	72%	12
Beltz, Mike	R	20	95%	Α	97%	2
Bosch, Glenn	R	30	100%	A+	92%	4
Boschee, Josh	D	44	78%	С	67%	6
Brandenburg, Mike	R	28	100%	A+	90%	13
Christensen, Cole	R	24	56%	F	59%	2
Christy, Josh	R	27	85%	В	85%	1
Conmy, Liz	D	11	78%	С	78%	1
Cory, Claire	R	42	100%	A+	99%	2
Dakane, Hamida	D	10	78%	С	78%	1
Davis, Jayme	D	9A	84%	B-	84%	1
Dobervich, Gretchen	D	11	77%	С	66%	4
Dockter, Jason	R	7	99%	A+	93%	6
Dyk, Scott	R	23	65%	D	65%	1
Fegley, Clayton	R	4B	97%	Α	94%	3
Finley-DeVille, Lisa	D	4A	82%	B-	82%	1
Fisher, Jay	R	5	75%	С	88%	3
Frelich, Kathy	R	15	81%	B-	81%	1
Grueneich, Jim	R	28	100%	A+	94%	3
Hager, LaurieBeth	D	21	78%	С	66%	3
Hagert, Jared	R	20	100%	A+	99%	2

Name of Legislator	Party	Dist.	Vote Index	Grade	Lifetime Score	# of Sessions
Hanson, Karla Rose	D	44	68%	D	64%	4
Hatlestad, Patrick	R	1	100%	A+	88%	9
Hauck, Dori	R	36	84%	B-	84%	2
Headland, Craig	R	29	100%	A+	88%	11
Heilman, Matthew	R	7	60%	D	60%	1
Heinert, Pat	R	32	100%	A+	96%	4
Henderson, Donna	R	9B	54%	F	54%	1
Holle, Dawson	R	31	81%	B-	81%	1
Hoverson, Jeff	R	3	45%	F	56%	3
Ista, Zachary	D	43	78%	С	68%	2
Johnson, Dennis	R	15	100%	A+	91%	16
Johnson, Jorin	R	41	81%	B-	81%	1
Jonas, Jim	R	13	100%	A+	100%	1
Karls, Karen	R	35	92%	А	88%	9
Kasper, Jim	R	46	84%	B-	82%	12
Kempenich, Keith	R	39	79%	С	88%	16
Kiefert, Dwight	R	24	98%	Α	83%	6
Klemin, Lawrence	R	47	98%	Α	90%	13
Koppelman, Ben	R	16	68%	D	70%	6
Kreidt, Gary	R	36	89%	В	87%	11
Lefor, Mike	R	<i>37</i>	100%	A+	91%	5
Longmuir, Donald	R	2	92%	А	91%	4
Louser, Scott	R	5	78%	С	80%	7
Marschall, Andrew	R	16	65%	D	77%	4
Martinson, Bob	R	35	100%	A+	87%	25

Legislators who earned a Chamber Champion distinction have **scores noted in orange**, those that scored **100%** are highlighted in blue.

	Name of Legislator	Party	Dist.	Vote Index	Grade	Lifetime Score	# of Sessions
	McLeod, Carrie	R	45	92%	А	92%	1
	Meier, Lisa	R	32	95%	А	84%	12
GNDC	Mitskog, Alisa	D	25	78%	С	70%	5
	Mock, Corey	D	18	78%	С	68%	8
	Monson, David	R	19	87%	В	89%	16
	Motschenbacher, Mike	R	47	100%	A+	100%	1
	Murphy, Eric	R	43	95%	Α	95%	1
GNDC	Nathe, Mike	R	30	100%	A+	90%	8
	Nelson, Jon	R	14	92%	Α	86%	14
	Novak, Anna	R	33	95%	А	95%	1
GNDC	O'Brien, Emily	R	42	95%	А	94%	4
	Olson, Jeremy	R	26	97%	А	97%	1
	Olson, SuAnn	R	8	70%	С	70%	1
	Ostlie, Mitch	R	12	97%	А	96%	2
	Porter, Todd	R	34	98%	А	89%	13
	Prichard, Brandon	R	8	46%	F	46%	1
	Pyle, Brandy	R	22	100%	A+	96%	4
	Richter, David	R	1	92%	А	94%	3
	Rios, Nico	R	23	73%	С	73%	1
	Roers Jones, Shannon	R	46	91%	А	92%	4
	Rohr, Karen	R	31	92%	А	76%	7
	Ruby, Dan	R	38	70%	С	76%	12
	Ruby, Matthew	R	40	82%	B-	82%	4
	Sanford, Mark	R	17	98%	А	89%	7
	Satrom, Bernie	R	12	100%	A+	92%	4

Name of Legislator	Party	Dist.	Vote Index	Grade	Lifetime Score	# of Sessions
Schatz, Mike	R	39	66%	D	77%	9
Schauer, Austen	R	13	100%	A+	93%	3
Schneider, Mary	D	21	76%	С	67%	5
Schobinger, Randy	R	40	81%	B-	89%	10
Schreiber-Beck, Cindy	R	25	97%	Α	93%	5
Steiner, Vicky	R	37	92%	Α	85%	7
Stemen, Greg	R	27	100%	A+	98%	2
Strinden, Michelle	R	41	100%	A+	97%	3
Swiontek, Steve	R	10	92%	Α	92%	5
Thomas, Paul	R	6	84%	B-	92%	2
Timmons, Kelby	R	26	70%	С	70%	1
Toman, Nathan	R	34	70%	С	73%	6
Tveit, Bill	R	33	73%	С	85%	3
VanWinkle, Lori	R	3	57%	F	57%	1
Vetter, Steve	R	18	92%	Α	88%	4
Vigesaa, Don	R	29	97%	Α	90%	10
Wagner, Scott	R	45	97%	Α	97%	1
Warrey, Jonathan	R	22	91%	Α	91%	1
Weisz, Robin	R	14	97%	А	87%	14

Denotes Business Bipartisanship



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PhRMA

HEAR IT FROM OUR MEMBERS

(NEWMAN) Kari Newman Ness, Newman Signs

A part of successful lobbying is to get help from other interested parties; we partner with the Greater North Dakota Chamber. We appreciated their contributions and assistance. It's nice to have GNDC in our corner – seeing things our way and willing to help to ensure business ideals are communicated and understood.

Dan Pearson, Northwest Tire

GNDC's legislative work is essential to my business operations. I get to focus on my organization, they handle the legislation lifting - combing the bills for potential threats or benefits. I take the cues from this team on when to engage. North Dakota's current business climate isn't an accident and GNDC has been there, like a

watchdog for good pro-business policy.



GNDC stands up on the big issues that could impact daily operations for businesses in North Dakota. They protect the state's strong and open business climate. We know they are there, fighting to maintain the landscape that will allow business to prosper.

Linda Carroll-Shern, PhRMA

Industry partnerships are essential in the business world. We appreciate our relationship with GNDC, whose communication and collaboration ensures business principles are at the forefront of public policy. Additionally, they share our values of innovation, competition, and security in the free market. These are essential to our burgeoning industry, especially as North Dakota becomes a major player in the market.

NDAR

Jill Beck, ND Association of REALTORS

Thank you to the Greater North Dakota Chamber for their continued support for the businesses in the state of North Dakota and doing the right thing. The GNDC is always the calm in the eye of the storm for the business community during the flurry of the legislative session. They are a crucial organization that we appreciate partnering with during the legislative sessions as well as throughout the year. The work they do not only benefits the business community but local communities and citizens of the state as well. Kudos GNDC and thank you!