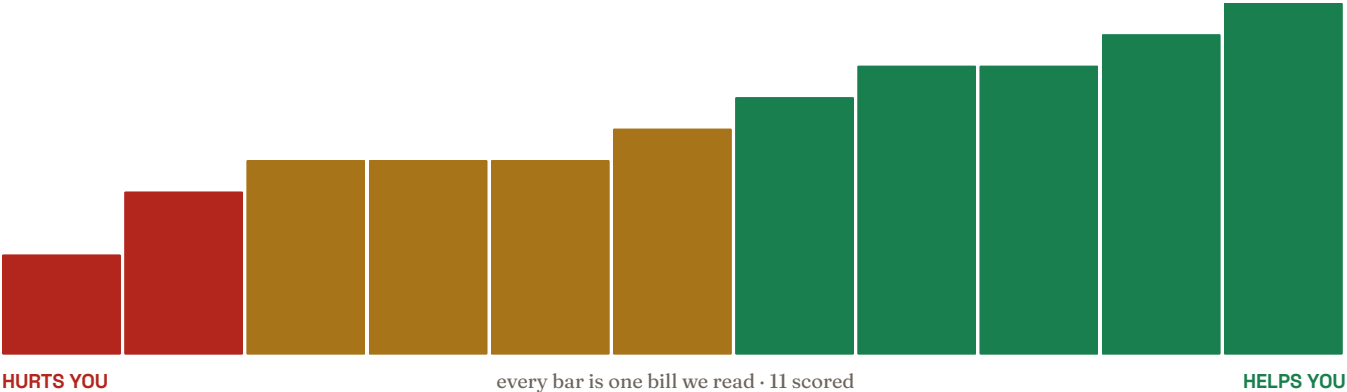




OBILLERATE • WATCHDOG

# North Dakota Bill Book 2026

The North Dakota bills that matter most, each scored 1–10 on one question: does it help everyday people, or the interests behind it?



Our take on the left. The bill on the right. Room for your notes.

## Every spread is one bill, twice.

On the **left** is our take: the Billometer score, what the bill means for you, and the factor-by-factor reasoning behind that score. On the **right** is the bill on the record: its official title, its status, where to read the real text, and space for your own notes.

### THE BILLOMETER

One number, 1 to 10, answering a single question: does this help everyday people or hurt them? 1–4 hurts, 5–6 is mixed, 7–10 helps. It is our editorial judgement — which is exactly why every page shows the reasoning behind it. If you disagree with a score, you can see precisely where you disagree.

### HOW THESE BILLS WERE CHOSEN

Ranked, not cherry-picked. This edition prints the 10 lowest-scoring and 1 highest-scoring of the 11 North Dakota bills we have fully analysed. A bill only qualifies if it passed our verification step, has a recorded official status, and has its reasoning attached. Thin entries are left out rather than padded. Note that only 143 bills in the entire country score 3 or below, so in most places the bottom of the list is not evil — it is merely mixed, and we label it that way.

### THESE ARE PROPOSALS, NOT LAW

Unless a status line says otherwise. Bills move constantly; every page shows the status we recorded on 2026-09-11 and links to the live version.

Bill data from LegiScan (CC BY 4.0), Congress.gov and OpenStates. Analysis and scoring are Obillerate's own. Scores are editorial opinion, not legal advice — always read the official text before acting. Found an error? [www.obillerate.com/corrections](http://www.obillerate.com/corrections)

## 10 worst, 1 best

### THE WORST — LOWEST SCORING

- 2/10** HB1277     **The Ethics Commission Bill** — Ethics commission changes give lawmakers new immunity
- 4/10** SCR4010     **The Transgender Athletes Bill** — Push to change NCAA rules on transgender athletes in sports
- 5/10** HB1168     **The Property Taxes Bill** — New fund aims to help with property taxes in North Dakota
- 5/10** HB1169     **The Improve Veterans Bill** — New bill aims to improve veterans' benefits in North Dakota
- 5/10** HB1172     **The Fees Distance Bill** — Fees for distance learning courses get new rules in North Dakota
- 6/10** SB2192     **The Community Health Bill** — Funding for community health providers could help local care
- 7/10** HB1477     **The Fertility Care Bill** — New fertility care rights bill introduced in North Dakota
- 8/10** HB1586     **The Home Foreclosures Bill** — North Dakota bill stops home tax foreclosures, offers credit
- 8/10** HB1100     **The School Meals Bill** — Free school meals stay funded for families with unpaid debt
- 9/10** HB1289     **The Loved Ones Bill** — Tax break for families caring for loved ones at home

### THE BEST — HIGHEST SCORING

- 10/10** HB1428     **The Thrift Store Bill** — Thrift store clothes could become cheaper for everyone

# The Ethics Commission Bill

Ethics commission changes give lawmakers new immunity

ND HB1277 · Immunity & Accountability

**2**/10 **OBLITERATE**  
Hurts everyday people



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Citizens could lose a way to hold elected officials accountable, and complaints may be closed quickly without full review, so public trust could slip.

## WHY IT SCORES 2/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (hurts)** — immunity reduces accountability.  
legislators shielded from criminal prosecution
- Rights & Protections (hurts)** — harder to file complaints.  
complaint process limited
- Who Bears the Cost (neutral)** — no new spending.  
no direct cost shift
- Process Transparency (hurts)** — less transparent process.  
commission can close matters quickly

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (2R / 0D)

**The complaint process of the ethics commission; and to declare an emergency.**

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-13

The bill would let legislators avoid criminal charges when following rules and make it harder to file complaints against them.

## Government Power

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1277-916502](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1277-916502)

# The Transgender Athletes Bill

Push to change NCAA rules on transgender athletes in sports

ND SCR4010 • Your Right to Sue

4/10

OBLITERATE

Hurts everyday people



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill could create more arguments about fairness in sports. It might not help anyone in the long run, so people should pay attention to it now.

## WHY IT SCORES 4/10 — THE RECEIPTS

**Accountability** (neutral) — The bill does not hold anyone accountable..  
Unknown

**Rights & Protections** (hurts) — It may limit rights for transgender athletes..  
The bill seeks to revoke protections for transgender student-athletes.

**Who Bears the Cost** (neutral) — No clear cost shifts are mentioned..  
Unknown

**Process Transparency** (helps) — The bill is public and discussed in the legislature..  
The bill was introduced and referred to a committee.

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (6R / 0D)

THE BILL ITSELF

**A concurrent resolution urging the the National Collegiate Athletic Association to revoke its transgender student-athlete eligibility policy, which directly discriminates against female student athletes in collegiate women's sports.**

ND SCR4010

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-29

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would ask the NCAA to change rules that affect transgender student-athletes, which some say is unfair to female athletes.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

Nobody / Symbolic

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (ND SCR4010) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo4010.html>

LegiScan — SCR4010 — <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/SCR4010/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-scr4010-947275](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-scr4010-947275)

YOUR NOTES

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# The Property Taxes Bill

New fund aims to help with property taxes in North Dakota

ND HB1168 • Money & Damages

5/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If this bill passes, it could help people pay their property taxes. It is important to watch how this develops.

## WHY IT SCORES 5/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — The bill includes provisions for management studies..  
The legislative management study could improve fund oversight.
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — It protects homeowners from sudden tax increases..  
Limiting tax hikes without voter approval helps safeguard rights.
- Who Bears the Cost** (neutral) — Funding sources are not clearly defined..  
It is unclear who will pay for the new funds.
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — The process for fund management needs more clarity..  
More details on fund management could improve transparency.

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (8R / 0D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-05-02 — failed

Yes 12R/1D • No 67R/10D

THE BILL ITSELF

**Legacy fund definitions and the legacy earnings fund; to provide a statement of legislative intent; to provide for a legislative management study, to provide an appropriation; to provide an effective date; to provide an expiration date; and to declare an emergency.**

ND HB1168

Engrossed · recorded 2025-02-25

WHAT IT DOES

This bill would create funds to help with property taxes and support homeowners in North Dakota.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

Everyday People

READ IT YOURSELF

Official text (ND HB1168) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1168.html>

LegiScan — HB1168 — <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1168/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1168-909037](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1168-909037)

YOUR NOTES

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# The Improve Veterans Bill

New bill aims to improve veterans' benefits in North Dakota

ND HB1169 • Money & Damages

5/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Veterans deserve fair treatment and support. Now is the time to make sure they get the benefits they earned.

## WHY IT SCORES 5/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (helps)** — The bill aims to hold people accountable for cheating..  
The penalties would discourage fraud.
- Rights & Protections (helps)** — Veterans would gain better access to benefits..  
The bill focuses on improving support for veterans.
- Process Transparency (neutral)** — The bill's process is somewhat clear..  
It has passed some stages but still needs work.

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (12R / 0D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-04-22 — failed  
Yes 32R/2D • No 51R/9D

**Compensation for veterans' benefits; and to provide a penalty.**

Engrossed · recorded 2025-02-25

This bill would help veterans get better benefits and punish those who try to cheat the system.

## Everyday People

Official text (ND HB1169) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bol169.html>

LegiScan – HB1169 – <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1169/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1169-909175](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1169-909175)

# The Fees Distance Bill

Fees for distance learning courses get new rules in North Dakota

ND HB1172 • Consumer Protection

5/10

TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If passed, the rule could make it easier or harder for people to pay for remote classes, so families should watch the debate now.

## WHY IT SCORES 5/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — neutral.  
Bill does not clearly add or remove oversight of fee payments.
- Rights & Protections** (neutral) — neutral.  
No clear change to students' right to sue over fees.
- Who Bears the Cost** (neutral) — neutral.  
Unclear if costs shift to students or the state.
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — neutral.  
Bill follows standard legislative process.

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (8R / 0D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-02-19 — failed  
Yes 1R/0D • No 80R/8D

THE BILL ITSELF

# The payment of fees for courses provided by the center for distance education.

**ND HB1172** Introduced · recorded 2025-01-07

WHAT IT DOES

The bill would change how students pay for online courses from the state distanceeducation center, possibly affecting tuition amounts and payment rules.

WHO IT’S WRITTEN FOR

Education providers

READ IT YOURSELF

**Official text (ND HB1172)** — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1172.html>

**LegiScan — HB1172** — <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1172/2025>

**Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted** — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1172-909419](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1172-909419)

YOUR NOTES

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# The Community Health Bill

Funding for community health providers could help local care

ND SB2192 · Healthcare & Insurance

6/10

## TOLERATE

Mixed — some good, some bad



### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If this bill passes, it could help local health providers get better training and support. This means better care for everyone. It's important to keep an eye on it.

### WHY IT SCORES 6/10 — THE RECEIPTS

**Funding Tilt (helps)** — Increases funding for community health providers.  
The bill proposes an appropriation for grants.

### FOLLOW THE MONEY

**Pushing for it:** department of health and human services  
**Bearing the cost:** Unknown

### WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (4R / 2D)

### HOW THEY VOTED

Senate · 2025-02-14 — failed  
Yes 8R/5D · No 31R/0D

**A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of health and human services for accreditation grants for community providers.**

## WHAT IT DOES

## WHO IT'S WRITTEN FOR

## READ IT YOURSELF

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-sb2192-924754](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-sb2192-924754)

## YOUR NOTES

# The Fertility Care Bill

New fertility care rights bill introduced in North Dakota

ND HB1477 · Healthcare & Insurance

7/10

LIBERATE

Helps everyday people



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If passed, patients could more easily access IVF or other fertility help, and doctors who refuse could face fines, so families may get more support now.

## WHY IT SCORES 7/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability (helps)** — Adds penalties for violations.  
Penalties aim to enforce fertility rights
- Rights & Protections (helps)** — Creates explicit rights to fertility care.  
Gives people legal right to receive fertility treatments
- Who Bears the Cost (neutral)** — Cost of penalties unclear.  
No funding details provided
- Process Transparency (neutral)** — Bill introduced but no details on process.  
Limited information on implementation

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Bipartisan sponsorship (4R / 2D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2025-02-12 — failed  
Yes 23R/11D · No 59R/0D

**Fertility health care treatment rights; and to provide a penalty.**

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-17

The bill would give people the right to get fertility treatments and set penalties for anyone who blocks those services.

## Everyday People

Official text (ND HB1477) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1477.html>

**LegisScan – HB1477** – <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1477/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1477-928394](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1477-928394)

# The Home Foreclosures Bill

North Dakota bill stops home tax foreclosures, offers credit

ND HB1586 · Housing & Property

8/10 **LIBERATE**  
Helps everyday people



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill tried to help North Dakota homeowners by making it harder for them to lose their primary home over unpaid property taxes. It also would have given them a tax credit. While this bill did not pass, it shows that some lawmakers want to protect people from losing their homes due to tax issues. If similar bills come up again, it will be important for people to speak up about whether they think the state should be able to...

## WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — Neutral impact.  
The bill focuses on homeowner protection and tax collection methods, not direct...
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — Protects homeowners.  
The bill would eliminate foreclosure of tax liens for primary residential property...
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — State may bear cost.  
The bill creates a primary residence credit, which could reduce state tax revenue, and...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Neutral impact.  
The bill does not include specific provisions to increase or decrease process...

## FOLLOW THE MONEY

**Pushing for it:** Homeowners  
**Bearing the cost:** North Dakota state government

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (12R / 0D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House · 2025-02-12 — failed  
Yes 22R/0D · No 60R/11D

**The primary residence credit, setoff of income tax refunds for payment of delinquent real property and special assessment taxes, and eliminating foreclosure of tax liens for primary residential property; to provide an effective date; to provide an expiration date; and to declare an emergency.**

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-20

This bill would help people keep their homes by stopping tax foreclosures and giving a tax credit, making it easier to pay property taxes.

## Everyday People

Official text (ND HB1586) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1586.html>

LegiScan – HB1586 – <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1586/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1586-930481](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1586-930481)

# The School Meals Bill

Free school meals stay funded for families with unpaid debt

ND HB1100 • Money & Damages

**8**/10 **LIBERATE**  
Helps everyday people



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

If passed, families won't lose meals for kids because of unpaid bills, but the state may have to cover extra costs, so voters should watch the budget impact.

## WHY IT SCORES 8/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — exemption keeps meals funded.  
no change to oversight
- Rights & Protections** (helps) — protects kids' right to meals.  
keeps meals despite debt
- Who Bears the Cost** (hurts) — state pays.  
funding burden may increase
- Process Transparency** (helps) — report required.  
adds oversight

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (6R / 0D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-02-12 — failed  
Yes 10R/10D • No 71R/1D

**A BILL for an Act to provide an exemption to continue free school meal funding for qualified delinquent meal debt and to provide for a legislative management report.**

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-07

The bill would let schools keep giving free meals to kids even if families owe money on past meals.

## Everyday People

Official text (ND HB1100) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1100.html>

**LegiScan – HB1100** – <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1100/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1100-900006](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1100-900006)

# The Loved Ones Bill

Tax break for families caring for loved ones at home

ND HB1289 • Housing & Property

9/10

LIBERATE

Helps everyday people



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill tried to help families who care for sick or elderly loved ones at home by lowering their property taxes. It would have made it easier for people to afford to keep their family members at home instead of sending them to a facility. However, the bill failed to pass, meaning families who provide in-home care will not get this tax help right now. It is important to watch if similar bills come up again, as they could...

## WHY IT SCORES 9/10 — THE RECEIPTS

**Accountability** (neutral) — Not directly related to government accountability..

The bill's focus is on tax relief, not government oversight.

**Rights & Protections** (helps) — It would help families afford to care for loved ones at home..

By reducing property tax burdens, the bill would protect the financial well-being of...

**Who Bears the Cost** (helps) — Families providing care would pay less in property taxes..

The bill would shift some of the financial burden of in-home care away from individual...

**Process Transparency** (neutral) — The bill went through the normal legislative steps..

The bill was introduced, had a committee hearing, and was voted on, following standard...

## FOLLOW THE MONEY

**Pushing for it:** Residential property owners providing in-home care

**Bearing the cost:** Local governments (lost tax revenue), potentially other taxpayers

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (7R / 1D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-01-30 — failed

Yes 26R/6D • No 56R/5D

**A partial property tax exemption for residential property used for in-home care services for a qualifying individual; and to provide an effective date.**

Introduced · recorded 2025-01-13

This bill would give a tax break to people who care for family members at home, making it cheaper to provide care.

## Everyday People

Official text (ND HB1289) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1289.html>

LegiScan — HB1289 — <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1289/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1289-916279](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1289-916279)

# The Thrift Store Bill

Thrift store clothes could become cheaper for everyone

ND HB1428 • Consumer Protection

10/10 **LIBERATE**  
Helps everyday people



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

This bill would make it easier for people to buy affordable clothes by taking away the sales tax at nonprofit thrift stores. This would help families save money on things they need. Some might say that removing any tax means less money for the state, which could affect other services. But supporters believe helping people afford basic needs is more important. This bill has faced challenges, but it is still being discussed, so...

## WHY IT SCORES 10/10 — THE RECEIPTS

- Accountability** (neutral) — Not applicable.  
This bill does not directly address accountability for powerful groups or individuals.
- Rights & Protections** (neutral) — Not applicable.  
This bill does not directly impact people's rights or protections.
- Who Bears the Cost** (helps) — Consumers save money on clothing.  
The bill would remove sales tax on clothing sold by nonprofit thrift stores, directly...
- Process Transparency** (neutral) — Not applicable.  
The bill's process does not appear to have unusual transparency issues based on the...

## FOLLOW THE MONEY

- Pushing for it:** People who buy clothes from nonprofit thrift stores
- Bearing the cost:** The North Dakota state government (lost sales tax revenue)

## WHO'S BEHIND IT

Republican-sponsored (8R / 0D)

## HOW THEY VOTED

House • 2025-04-16 — failed  
Yes 27R/10D • No 54R/0D

**A sales tax exemption for sales of clothing by a thrift store of a nonprofit corporation; and to provide an effective date.**

Engrossed · recorded 2025-02-12

This bill would stop sales tax on clothes sold at nonprofit thrift stores, making it cheaper for people to buy used clothing.

### Thrift stores

Official text (ND HB1428) — <https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/bill-overview/bo1428.html>

**LegisScan – HB1428** – <https://legiscan.com/ND/bill/HB1428/2025>

Live status, community verdicts and how your own reps voted — [www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1428-916748](http://www.obillerate.com/bill/nd-hb1428-916748)



#### ABOUT THIS BOOK

## North Dakota Bill Book 2026

Published by Obillerate, an independent nonpartisan watchdog that reads and scores every bill in Congress and all 50 states on a single question: does it help everyday people, or the interests behind it? Every score in this book shows its reasoning, and every page links to the official text so you can check us.

#### HOW TO CITE THIS

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[www.obillerate.com/library/2026/](http://www.obillerate.com/library/2026/)

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We get things wrong sometimes and fix them fast. [www.obillerate.com/corrections](http://www.obillerate.com/corrections)