



NORTH DAKOTA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FINAL

68th Legislative Assembly Concludes

The state legislature adjourned sine die in the early morning hours of Sunday, April 30, after 75 days. This leaves five days of the 80 days allotted by the state constitution every two years for policymakers to reconvene as needed during the interim. Now that the legislature has adjourned, the Governor has 15 days to either sign or veto a bill. Although unusual, the legislature could reconvene to consider any vetoes that happen after adjournment.

A total of 990 bills were introduced and acted on this session, and the legislature passed approximately two-thirds of the introduced bills and resolutions. Numerous studies were also proposed for consideration during the interim. In the next couple of months, legislative management will meet to review all proposed studies and prioritize which ones will be assigned to interim legislative committees for work prior to the 2025 Legislative Session. NDVMA will keep you updated in the interim on those studies impacting the veterinary industry.

Below is the final status of bills tracked by NDVMA this legislative session.

Final Status of Key Bills

HB 1003 – North Dakota University System budget (Support)

This bill includes an appropriation of \$3.6 million for the Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP), which is consistent with the previous biennia. There were no attempts to implement a payback provision this session.

Status: PASSED

HB 1004 – Public Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services budget (Support)

This bill includes \$480,000 for the Veterinary Loan Repayment Program (VLRP), which is consistent with the previous biennia.

Status: PASSED

HB 1364 – Animals as a public nuisance (Monitor)

HB 1364 related to the section of law that establishes a dog that annoys, disturbs or harasses the public as a public nuisance. The bill would have amended a gap in current law by making it applicable to private property in addition to public roads. There was initial concern this would include elk, deer and bees. After further research, elk, deer and bees were exempted from being a nuisance in North Dakota.

Status: FAILED

HB 1505 – Prohibition on requiring a vaccination (Monitor)

This bill stated a person is not required to get a vaccine.

Status: FAILED

**SB 2274 – Discrimination based on vaccination status or possession of an immunity passport
(Monitor)**

This bill extends the current prohibition (expiring August 2023) against requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination in most cases.

Status: PASSED