

Sixty-eighth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2047**

Introduced by

Judiciary Committee

(At the request of the Supreme Court)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 9 of section 44-04-17.1 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to the definition of meeting.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 9 of section 44-04-17.1 of the North Dakota  
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 9. a. "Meeting" means a formal or informal gathering or a work session, whether in  
7 person or through any electronic means, of:

8 (1) A quorum of the members of the governing body of a public entity regarding  
9 public business; or

10 (2) Less than a quorum of the members of the governing body of a public entity  
11 regarding public business, if the members attending one or more of the  
12 smaller gatherings collectively constitute a quorum and if the members hold  
13 the gathering for the purpose of avoiding the requirements of section  
14 44-04-19.

15 b. "Meeting" does not include:

16 (1) A chance or social gathering at which public business is not considered;

17 (2) Emergency operations during a disaster or emergency declared under  
18 section 37-17.1-10 or an equivalent ordinance if a quorum of the members  
19 of the governing body are present but are not discussing public business as  
20 the full governing body or as a task force or working group;

21 (3) The attendance of members of a governing body at meetings of any  
22 national, regional, or state association to which the public entity, the  
23 governing body, or individual members belong;

- 1                   (4) Training seminars at which no other public business is considered or  
2                   discussed; and
- 3                   (5) Administration of examinations by a regulatory board when no other public  
4                   business is considered or discussed.
- 5           c. Notwithstanding subdivisions a and b, as applied to the legislative assembly,  
6           "meeting" means any gathering subject to section 14 of article IV of the  
7           Constitution of North Dakota.
- 8           d. Notwithstanding subdivisions a and b, "meeting" does not include any meeting of  
9           the judicial branch or a committee or workgroup of the judicial branch. Such  
10           meetings are governed by section 5 of article XI of the Constitution of North  
11           Dakota.