

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

SENATE BILL NO. 2047
(Judiciary Committee)
(At the request of the Supreme Court)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 9 of section 44-04-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of meeting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

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

9. a. "Meeting" means a formal or informal gathering or a work session, whether in person or through any electronic means, of:
 - (1) A quorum of the members of the governing body of a public entity regarding public business; or
 - (2) Less than a quorum of the members of the governing body of a public entity regarding public business, if the members attending one or more of the smaller gatherings collectively constitute a quorum and if the members hold the gathering for the purpose of avoiding the requirements of section 44-04-19.
- b. "Meeting" does not include:
 - (1) A chance or social gathering at which public business is not considered;
 - (2) Emergency operations during a disaster or emergency declared under section 37-17.1-10 or an equivalent ordinance if a quorum of the members of the governing body are present but are not discussing public business as the full governing body or as a task force or working group;
 - (3) The attendance of members of a governing body at meetings of any national, regional, or state association to which the public entity, the governing body, or individual members belong;
 - (4) Training seminars at which no other public business is considered or discussed; and
 - (5) Administration of examinations by a regulatory board when no other public business is considered or discussed.
- c. Notwithstanding subdivisions a and b, as applied to the legislative assembly, "meeting" means any gathering subject to section 14 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota.
- d. Notwithstanding subdivisions a and b, "meeting" does not include any meeting of the judicial branch or a committee or workgroup of the judicial branch. Such meetings are governed by section 5 of article XI of the Constitution of North Dakota.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2047.

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 91 Nays 0 Absent 3

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2023,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State