

NORTH DAKOTA

Public Health Association

Policy and Advocacy Committee 2022-2023 Annual Report

Committee chairs, Mary Lizakowski and Shelly Davis officially began their leadership of the Policy and Advocacy Committee on September 26, 2022. Danni Pinnick was the committee chair.

Committee Activity

Our committee's first assignment involved the development of a survey that was sent out to all NDPHA members to vote on the proposed resolutions for 2022. This initial assignment also involved assisting authors with standardizing and finalizing resolution drafts. All four resolutions were approved through the vote and results were sent out to all NDPHA members for review. We also developed a document focused on key talking points of this year's four resolutions. All documents were added to the association's website to be easily accessed by NDPHA members. Our team also developed a bill tracker sent out weekly to all NDPHA members during the recent legislative session for our state. The bills included in the tracker were based on recommendations from members that contacted the Policy and Advocacy co-chairs. The updates presented for each bill included the bill's summary, individual hyperlinks to review further information on the bill, and the latest action on the bill. A major success to note for this year's resolutions was the state proclamation for North Dakota Public Health Week (April 3-9, 2022) and Indigenous Public Health Day (April 4, 2022).

Current Committee Member List

- Jacob Davis
- Gretchen Dobervich
- Kylie Hall
- Majusta Kleven
- Kelly Nagel
- Erin Ourada
- Chelsea Ridge
- Mark Strand
- Debbie Swanson
- Sarah Weninger
- Theresa Will

*Karen Ehrens served on the committee until her NDPHA membership ended earlier this year.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Policy and Advocacy Committee, please reach out to committee chairs Mary Lizakowski at mmyrfield@yahoo.com or Shelly Davis at shelly_s_davis@hotmail.com.

Enclosures: Most recent update for 2023 ND bill tracking
Key Highlights of 2022 NDPHA Resolutions

NDPHA Policy and Advocacy Committee-2023 Bill Tracking

End of April 2022

HB1111 - a health-related regulation of an international health organization is not enforceable in this state unless enacted through legislation or a signed executive order.

https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1111.html?bill_year=2023&bill_number=1111

Action: House Human Services concurred with Senate amendments, and it passed in the House, 88 yeas and 3 nays.

Signed by the Governor on 04/06.

HB1200 – amends and reenacts a section of the state century code, 23-12-20, relating to COVID-19 vaccination and infection information.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1200.html>

Action: Second reading on 04/03 in the Senate **Failed**, 6 yeas and 41 nays.

HB1229 - this is the Cigar Lounge bill. It would severely undercut our smoke-free air law. Tobacco-Free North Dakota is and always will be a steadfast NO on any iteration of this bill.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1229.html>

Action: House Industry, Business, and Labor concurred with Senate amendments, and it passed in the House, 64 yeas and 26 nays. **Signed by the Governor on 04/10** and filed with the Secretary of State on 04/11.

HB1371 – changing state statute around corporate ownership of agricultural land and operations.

<https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1371.html?#1494>

Action: The House did not concur with amendments from the Senate and conference committees have been appointed as of 04/07. On 4/13, motion passed that House accede to the Senate amendments and further amend to add an emergency clause. 4/24 Was reported back to conference committee and report adopted. Second reading passed 41 yeas, and 5 nays, Emergency clause carried. **Signed by the Governor on 04/28.**

HB1491 – state payment for school lunches for students.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1491.html>

Action: **Failed** in the Senate vote on 03/28 and motion to reconsider failed.

HB1494 – preventing school meal shaming.

<https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1494.html?#1494>

Action: House Education concurred with Senate amendments, and it passed the House, 90 yeas and 1 nay. **Signed by the Governor on 04/07.**

HB1502 – relating to access to hospital care and COVID-19 vaccination status.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1502.html>

Action: Passed the Senate, 27 yeas and 17 nays, and returned to the House. **Signed by the Governor on 04/07.**

HB1515 – relating to the sale of raw milk directly to a consumer.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo1515.html?search=1515>

Action: House did not concur with amendments from the Senate. Reported back to the conference committee on 4/19, further amended. Conference committee motion (6-0-0) for Senate to recede from Senate 3000 version amendment and further amend to version 2003 (Christmas Tree Bill). Second reading passed as amended 32 yeas, 14 nays. **Signed by the Governor on 4/24.**

SB2227 - relating to expanding the North Dakota Health Council membership and clarifying its role. This would include adding a member representing public health.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2227.html>

Action: The Senate Human Services did not concur with House amendments; conference committees have been appointed as of 04/11. Conference committee motions House to recede from the amendments and amended without

“licensed registered” language (6-0-0). Second reading, passed as amended, 74 yeas and 18 nays. **Signed by the Governor on 4/25.**

SB2253 – relating to regulation of onsite wastewater treatment system installers; onsite wastewater recycling treatment technologies guide, permits for installation of an onsite wastewater treatment system, investigation of onsite wastewater treatment systems, and sewer and water installers; to repeal a section of the state century code relating to the onsite wastewater recycling technical committee; to provide a penalty; and to provide an effective date.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2253.html?search=2253>

Action: **Failed** in the House on 03/31, 1 yeas and 87 nays.

SB2273 - to provide an appropriation to the Department of Commerce for a rural grocery store sustainability and food access expansion pilot grant program.

<https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2273.html>

Action: Senate conference committee report was adopted on 04/12 and the second reading passed in the Senate, 46 yeas and 0 nays. On 4/13, passed House 80 yeas and 10 nays. **Signed by the Governor on 4/21.**

SB2274 – relating to immunization requirements, inquiring about vaccination status and infection information; exemptions for specific work settings. It also looks to amend and reenact a section of the state century code, 23-12-20.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2274.html>

Action: Second reading in the House on 04/10 passed as amended, 87 yeas and 3 nays. Returned to the Senate and the second reading there on 04/11 passed, 29 yeas and 17 nays. **Signed by the Governor on 4/18.**

SB2284 – relating to providing grants for free lunches to school districts to students.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2284.html>

Action: Passed both House and Senate. **Signed by the Governor on 4/29.**

SB2344 - relating to the health care professional student loan repayment program.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2344.html>

Action: Senate Human Services did not concur with amendments from the House and conference committees have been appointed as of 04/07. On 4/12, Committee work- Senate acceded to House amendments (6-0-0). On 4/17 passed the Senate 45 yeas and 1 nay. **Signed by the Governor on 4/26.**

SB2362 - relating to safety belt usage; to repeal a section of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to secondary enforcement of safety belt requirements; and to provide a penalty.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2362.html?search=2362>

Action: Passed the House on 03/30. **Signed by the Governor on 04/04.** It was filed with the Secretary of State on 04/05.

SB2384 – relating to a study on vaccines for respiratory syncytial virus and vaccines developed using messenger ribonucleic acid technology.

<https://www.ndlegis.gov/assembly/68-2023/regular/bill-overview/bo2384.html>

Action: Second reading in the House on 04/04 **Failed**, 38 yeas and 53 nays.

RESOLUTION TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC HEALTH IN NORTH DAKOTA

- Recognize National Public Health Week (early April each year), Indigenous Public Health Day (April 4), and Public Health Thank You Day (Monday before Thanksgiving), with official proclamations demonstrating strong support for the work of public health in North Dakota (ND) and for the persons who are devoting their lives to work in public health.
- Enact legislation that protects the public's health, supports the public health workforce, and reverses the roll-back in public health authority that was enacted in the 2021 legislative session.
- Establish a ND Public Health Workforce Loan Repayment Program for individuals who have earned a Masters, or Doctorate degree in Public Health from one of ND's accredited public health programs, are Certified in Public Health, and have a practice location in a ND local or state public health organization.

RESOLUTION TO USE STRATEGIES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM

- In addition to all federal excise taxes, increase the excise tax on:
 - Beer in bottles and cans from \$0.16/gallon to \$0.26/gallon
 - Wine from \$0.50/gallon to \$0.87/gallon
 - Liquor from \$2.50/gallon to \$14.27/gallon
- Conduct a study to determine a cost recovery approach to cover the costs of alcohol harm to society.
- Decrease the density of alcohol sales outlets and reduce the hours and the days alcohol sales is allowed.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS IN NORTH DAKOTA

- The NDPHA supports the development of connected and planned local food systems that assure that North Dakota nourishes its residents with healthful foods.
- The NDPHA recommends that state agencies utilize information technology and mapping to visualize food retail sources and identify gaps in retail food availability to facilitate planning on a local, regional, and statewide basis.
- The NDPHA recommends coordination and collaboration among state agencies, tribal governments, and local public health to bring focus and resources to healthful food supplies for all North Dakota residents.

RESOLUTION ON OPPOSING HIV CRIMINALIZATION

- Requests that current legislation is reviewed as recommended in the National HIV/AIDS Strategy Federal Implementation Plan strategy 3.1.1 to ensure HIV statutes promote public health approaches to HIV prevention and care.
- Requests the no person living with HIV in North Dakota be able to be imposed with HIV-related penalties and criminal offenses for behaviors that pose no risk of HIV transmission or in situations in which no transmission of HIV occurs.
- Requests the promotion of public education regarding the screening, prevention and treatment of HIV to decrease the stigma and discrimination and against people living with HIV in North Dakota communities.