

StormTRACKER

WDAYabc

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StormTRACKER Forecast

T-storms and areas of heavy rain today. Temps hold steady in the 50s for a windy afternoon. Sunny tomorrow.

Almanac Through 12 AM Sunday

Temperature	High	Low
Saturday	58°	33°
Normal	58°	34°
Record	90° in 1952	18° in 1931

Precipitation In Inches

Saturday	0
Month To Date	1.10"
Departure From Avg Month To Date	.13"
Year To Date	1.39"
Departure From Avg Year To Date	-0.95"

Sunrise: 6:23 a.m. Sunset: 8:41 p.m.

	Today	Tomorrow	
North Dakota	Hi Lo	Hi	Lo
Bismarck	55 28	61	41
Fargo	63 30	56	37
Medora	50 28	68	46
Minot	52 26	58	40
Williston	52 29	68	46

	Today	Tomorrow	
Minnesota	Hi Lo	Hi	Lo
Alexandria	68 33	56	39
Duluth	52 37	53	32
International Falls	50 28	49	32
Minneapolis	73 45	61	40
Rochester	75 44	60	39

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

54 / 25

58 / 41

66 / 40

63 / 38

65 / 41

77 / 52

77 / 52

Thunderstorms/  
Wind

Mostly Sunny

PM Showers

Partly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Sunny

Mostly Sunny/  
Wind

Wind: N 27 mph

Wind: SW 12 mph

Wind: SW 15 mph

Wind: NW 15 mph

Wind: NW 10 mph

Wind: S 16 mph

Wind: S 20 mph

\*Average wind speed for each day

UV Index Today

3

0-2 Low, 3-5 Moderate, 6-7 High, 8-10 Very High, 11+ Extreme.

BILLS

CONTINUED from A1

doesn’t apply to the self-insured market.

Under signed Senate Bill 2352, mothers incarcerated at the Heart River correctional center will be allowed to live with their infants for the first 18 months of their lives.

In the North Dakota Century Code, gender is now defined in the North Dakota Century Code as being male or female only.

House Bill 1217 was also approved. It repealed a decades-old state law that specifically gave harsher penalties to those who knowingly transmit HIV to another individual. No one had ever been prosecuted for the crime.

“We are happy that North Dakota’s laws will now become more fair, less discriminatory and will promote treatment and prevention rather than criminalization,” said Cody Schuler, advocacy manager for the American Civil Liberties Union of North Dakota.

**Transparency**

House Bill 1319 requires the State Investment Board to maintain a publicly accessible website that lists all Legacy Fund Investments.

The Legacy fund was created nearly 15 years ago as an ever-expanding piggy bank to supplement oil and gas revenue when the finite resource dwindles.

It’s valued at

approximately \$12 billion as of Jan. 31 — though its exact worth is uncertain after the fund lost around \$1 billion in value in early April.

“I love hunting, but North Dakotans shouldn’t have to hunt to find out where taxpayer dollars are being invested on their behalf,” Armstrong said when signing the bill.

Senate Bill 2069 allows notices of public meetings held by government entities to be placed on both the North Dakota Newspaper Association website and physical newspapers.

**Civil liability**

House Bill 1318 lifts liability from individuals who apply pesticides in

accordance with the chemical’s approved labeling. A pesticide applicator could still be challenged in court if they ignored the label and over-applied.

After the bill was signed, Modern Ag Alliance Executive Director Elizabeth Burns-Thompson said in a release that the law “stands up” for farmers and preserves their access to “essential crop protection tools that keep farms competitive and grocery bills down.”

Harsher liability requirements came under House 1561, which directs websites with a “substantial portion” of “harmful” sexual material to put in place an age-verification software.

If a company fails to

administer an age check, it could face civil penalties, according to the bill.

**Crime**

When a student survivor of sexual abuse attends the same school as their perpetrator, under now-signed House Bill 1247, schools are directed to establish a “safety” plan for the student survivor in the event the abuser is unable to transfer to another school.

In an effort to protect survivors of sexual violence, lawmakers also sent Armstrong Senate Bill 2387, which he approved. The bill establishes the right for a survivor to have a privileged consultation with a third-party advocate while seeking justice.

When it comes to alleviating disputes between divorced parents, Armstrong signed Senate Bill 2186, aiming to launch a study to examine new, perhaps stricter, penalties for child custody violations.

House Bill 1303 was also approved, barring localities from establishing “sanctuary city” policies — rules generally allowing local law enforcement to withhold certain information from federal immigration authorities when they don’t have a warrant.

There are still hundreds of pieces of legislation awaiting final action. The final legislative day is May 9.

PROPERTY TAX

CONTINUED from A1

would have had the government pay part of property owners’ school district tax obligation. It was amended in the Senate Finance and Tax Committee to be a near-identical copy of House Bill 1176, the main vehicle for such changes.

The most recent version of HB 1176 being discussed in conference committee would expand the primary residence tax credit to offer up to \$1,650 to North Dakota homeowners. It would also cap the amount political subdivisions could raise their levies at 3% a year.

Sen. Mark Weber, R-Casselton, said HB 1168 had been hoghoused — stripped the bill’s original language and changed it so it does something different than originally intended — to be a backup in case HB 1176 fails, reflecting the version of the main bill that includes the Senate’s priorities for property tax relief and reform.

“In case 1176 doesn’t pass, we have 1168 ready to go,” Weber said. “It includes all the provisions that the Senate desires ... If 1176 runs into trouble and gets defeated, 1168 is all ready to go and fully loaded.”

The bill that passed Friday would set the maximum primary resident tax credit available at \$1,650 and includes the “skin in the game” amendment brought by Senate Majority Leader David Hogue, R-Minot, on HB 1176, which would ensure North Dakotans pay at least 25% of their property tax obligation and ensure no homeowner’s property tax obligation reaches zero.

He and other supporters of the amendment say it would keep voters from adopting local levies that would disproportionately affect farm and commercial land owners too easily.

The amendment has come up as a sticking point between the House and the Senate in conference committee, with the House opposed to the amendment and the Senate in favor of it.

HB 1168 passed the

Tanner Ecker / The Bismarck Tribune

Sen. Brad Bekkedahl, R-Williston, answers a question on House Bill 1168 on Friday during a Senate floor session at the North Dakota Capitol.

Senate in a unanimous 45-0 vote. It now goes

back to the House for a vote of concurrence.

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