

Statewide Initiative Usage

Number Of Initiatives	Number Passed	Number Failed	Passage Rate
166	75	91	45%

Statewide Initiatives

Year	Measure Number	Type	Subject Matter	Description	Pass/Fail
1918	N/A	IDA	Administration of Government	Authorizing the state, counties, and cities to engage in business activities.	Passed
1918	N/A	IDA	Administration of Government	Authorizing the state to bond up to \$10 million instead of \$200,000 and providing for mortgages on state industries.	Passed
1918	N/A	IDA	Taxes	Authorizing the Legislature to impose an acreage tax on land to insure crops against hail damage.	Passed
1918	N/A	IDA	Taxes	Authorizing the Legislature to classify personal property for purposes of exemptions.	Passed
1918	N/A	IDA	Initiative and Referendum	Amending provision for initiative and referendum by changing required signatures to 10,000 for initiating a statutory measure; to 7,000 for referring legislation actions; and providing that initiated measures would go directly to a vote of the people.	Passed
1918	N/A	IDA	Initiative and Referendum	Providing for submission of constitutional amendments to people by simple majority vote of one legislative session, and providing for initiated constitutional amendments with 20,000 signatures.	Passed
1918	N/A	IDA	Administration of Government	Forbidding the Legislature to grant a franchise or special interest as an emergency measure.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Requiring an examination of state industrial institutions twice yearly by a state Board of Auditors consisting of the Attorney General, state Auditor, and the Secretary of state.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Education	Restoring certain powers regarding teacher certification to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Permitting legal publication in other than official newspapers.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Banking Reform	Requiring the deposit of only state funds in the Bank of North Dakota instead of the funds of all public bodies.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Civil Rights	Prohibiting the display of red and black flags or signs bearing anti-government inscriptions; prohibiting the carrying in parade or the display of any flag other than the national flag or the flag of a friendly nation.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Permitting baseball on Sunday.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Health/Medical	Legalizing the sale of cigarettes but prohibiting sale to minors.	Failed
1920	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Creating a state Athletic Commission to regulate boxing and deduction of 10% of the boxing gate receipts for the state highway fund.	Failed
1920	N/A	DS	Banking Reform	Prohibiting real estate loans by the Bank of North Dakota.	Passed
1920	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Permitting the operation of motion picture theaters on Sunday.	Failed

Year	Measure Number	Type	Subject Matter	Description	Pass/Fail
1921	N/A	DS	Election Reform	Changing the form of ballot for national and partisan elections.	Failed
1921	N/A	DS	Banking Reform	Abolishing the Bank of North Dakota and providing a liquidation procedure.	Failed
1921	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Establishing a rural credit system to take over the farm loans from the Bank of North Dakota.	Failed
1921	N/A	DS	Banking Reform	Providing for public depositories to disqualify the Bank of North Dakota from receiving public funds.	Failed
1921	N/A	DS	Election Reform	Providing for the nonpartisan election of state and County officials.	Failed
1921	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Reorganizing the Industrial Commission by removing the state officials and providing for the appointment of a 3-man commission by the Governor with confirmation by the state Senate.	Failed
1922	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Creating the office of state Supervisor of grades, weights and measures and authorizing the office to set standards of quality on grain and conditions for marketing grain.	Passed
1922	N/A	DS	Education	Repealing minimum training and salary standards for teachers.	Passed
1922	N/A	DS	Bonds	Raising the limits of bonded indebtedness from \$10 million to \$20 million to enable the farm loan department of the Bank of North Dakota to make more loans.	Passed
1924	N/A	DS	Taxes	Reducing the amount of property taxes to be levied and spent in 1925-1927 biennium to not more than 75% of what was collected in 1923.	Failed
1924	N/A	DS	Election Reform	Changing the election of precinct committeemen from the regular June primary to the March presidential primary.	Failed
1924	N/A	DS	Labor	Giving priority to a labor lien running to a farmer and his family for their work between April 1 and December 1.	Failed
1926	N/A	DS	Taxes	Increasing the state gasoline tax from one to two cents per gallon for state highway purposes and providing for refunds when gas is used for non-highway purposes.	Passed
1928	N/A	DA	Alcohol Regulation	Repealing the clause of the constitution providing for prohibition.	Failed
1928	N/A	DS	Bonds	Authorizing a \$25 million bond issue for the state to indemnify depositors who lost money in bank closings between January 1, 1910 and May 15, 1928.	Failed
1930	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Lengthening the terms of state and County officials from two to four years.	Failed
1930	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Permitting the operation of motion picture theaters on Sunday after 1:30 p.m.	Failed
1930	N/A	DS	Taxes	Increasing the state gasoline tax from two to four cents, with three cents to go to state highway fund and one cent to the County highway funds.	Failed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Prohibiting crop mortgages.	Passed
1932	N/A	DA	Alcohol Regulation	Repeal prohibition.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Abolishing the office of District Tax Supervisor created in 1919.	Passed

Year	Measure Number	Type	Subject Matter	Description	Pass/Fail
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Reducing salaries of elected and appointed state officials by 20%.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Judicial Reform	Reducing salaries of Supreme Court Judges from \$5,500 to \$5,000.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Judicial Reform	Reducing salaries of District Judges from \$4,000 to \$3,500 per year.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Repealing requirement to publish public notice of sale of real estate for delinquent taxes.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Reducing fees paid to newspapers for publication of legal notices.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Providing a 3-year partial moratorium on debts.	Failed
1932	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Removing the state capital from Bismarck to Jamestown.	Failed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Reducing salaries of County officials and basing them on County population.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Election Reform	Extending the use of the absentee ballot to include any qualified elector who expected to be absent from his precinct and those restricted by physical disability.	Failed
1932	N/A	DS	Taxes	Reducing the taxable assessed valuation of property from 75% to 50%.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Prohibiting farming by corporation.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Reducing travel expenses for County officials.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Reducing travel expenses for state officials.	Passed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Providing 5-year partial moratorium on debts, public or private, except on those able to pay.	Failed
1932	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Repealing the prohibition against crop mortgages.	Failed
1933	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Permitting the manufacture and sale of beer in North Dakota.	Passed
1933	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Permitting operation of motion picture theaters on Sunday after 2 p.m.	Failed
1934	N/A	DS	Education	Setting the maximum amount of levy of school taxes but permitting additional levy if limitations wouldn't permit the raising of a least \$70 per pupil.	Failed
1934	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Legalizing the sale of liquor by any individual or business.	Failed
1934	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Legalizing and regulating the sale of intoxicating liquor in drug stores, hotels, restaurants and clubs; creating the office of Liquor Control Commissioner, and giving portion of taxes to school districts.	Failed
1934	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Repealing all state prohibition laws.	Failed
1934	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Permitting operation of motion picture theaters on Sunday after 2 p.m.	Passed
1936	N/A	DS	Election Reform	Abolishing the use of absent voters' ballots.	Failed
1936	N/A	DS	Campaign Finance Reform	Making it unlawful to expend federal funds in the state for political purposes.	Failed
1936	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Legalizing the sale of liquor and allocating the tax and license revenue for apportionment to counties to reduce real estate taxes.	Passed
1938	N/A	DS	Banking Reform	Reducing the legal rate of interest to 3% on indebtedness instead of 4% on borrowing and 7% on contracts.	Failed

Year	Measure Number	Type	Subject Matter	Description	Pass/Fail
1938	N/A	DA	Education	Creating a state Board of Higher Education to replace the Board of Administration as administrator of institutions of higher learning.	Passed
1938	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Clarifying which public funds are to be deposited in the state treasury for appropriation and which moneys are to be kept in trust.	Passed
1938	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Prohibiting members of the Legislature from accepting state employment during their terms of office.	Passed
1938	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Repealing liquor control act of November 1936.	Failed
1938	N/A	DS	Welfare	Providing a minimum pension under state old age assistance of \$40 per month unless more than one member of a family received aid in which case it would be \$30 per month.	Passed
1938	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Requiring approval of County Treasurer, Judge and Register of Deeds for transactions in County securities by County Commissioners.	Failed
1938	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Creating a state civil service for state employees.	Failed
1938	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Providing for a commission consisting of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General to appoint city and village officials.	Failed
1938	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Abolishing the state Regulatory Department; creating the state laboratories Department to be governed by board of the Governor, Attorney General and Treasurer.	Passed
1938	N/A	DA	Election Reform	Providing for the election of the Tax Commissioner in 1940 for a 4-year term on the no-party ballot.	Passed
1939	N/A	DS	Welfare	Diverting state gasoline and vehicle tax from highway construction to state old age assistance fund for two years.	Failed
1939	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Providing for the sale of liquor through municipal liquor stores in towns of 150 or more having a regular police department.	Failed
1939	N/A	DS	Taxes	Imposing a gross income tax of 2% on businesses, professions, and occupations, with some exceptions, for the various funds of the state and counties.	Failed
1940	N/A	DS	Taxes	Proposing three classes of property for tax purposes: 100% valuation for property assessed by state Board of Equalization; 75% on business inventories; 50% on household goods.	Failed
1940	N/A	DS	Taxes	Permitting abatement of past, present and future taxes based on excessive valuation.	Failed
1940	N/A	DA	Taxes	Permitting enactment of graduated land tax on farms in excess of \$15,000 valuation.	Failed
1940	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Changing name of state Board of Railroad Commissioners to Public Service Commission.	Passed
1940	N/A	DA	Taxes	Dedicating highway user taxes to defray cost of construction and maintenance of highways.	Passed

Year	Measure Number	Type	Subject Matter	Description	Pass/Fail
1940	N/A	DA	Taxes	Providing for a graduated land tax with a homestead exception of \$5,000 for legal owner-resident farmers.	Failed
1940	N/A	DS	Education	Earmarking sales tax revenue for schools and welfare.	Passed
1940	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Establishing a state Board of Finance and Administration to handle all trust funds.	Failed
1940	N/A	DS	Education	Earmarking sales tax revenues specifically 7/12ths for the school equalization fund and 5/12ths for the state welfare fund.	Passed
1940	N/A	DS	Education	Increasing the funds for financially distressed schools.	Passed
1940	N/A	DS	Education	Reducing the state per pupil payment to schools regardless of need and increasing the emergency funds for schools in distress.	Failed
1942	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages in restaurants.	Failed
1942	N/A	DS	Taxes	Providing for three classes of property for tax purposes.	Failed
1944	N/A	DS	Taxes	Repealing state income tax.	Failed
1944	N/A	DS	Bonds	Authorizing issuance of \$12,360,000 in bonds for state highway construction and maintenance.	Passed
1944	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages where commodities other than tobacco and soft drinks are sold.	Failed
1946	N/A	DS	Taxes	Reverting back to refunding procedure for taxes paid on gasoline used for non-highway purposes.	Passed
1948	N/A	DS	Education	Prohibiting the wearing of religious dress by public school teachers.	Passed
1948	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Legalizing parking meters in political subdivisions.	Failed
1948	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Prohibiting parking meters in state political subdivisions.	Passed
1948	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Repealing the law that prohibits sale of alcoholic beverages where commodities other than tobacco and soft drinks are sold.	Failed
1950	N/A	DA	Taxes	Permitting the enactment of a graduated land tax.	Failed
1950	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Permitting municipal and County option on sale of liquor.	Failed
1950	N/A	DS	Taxes	Increasing personal exemption on state income tax and establishing the basis for computing tax on joint returns.	Failed
1952	N/A	DS	Taxes	Exempting food and drugs from state sales tax.	Passed
1952	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Setting hours of operation of liquor establishments between 8 a.m. and 10:30pm.	Failed
1952	N/A	DS	Banking Reform	Requiring clearance of all checks by banks without fee for cashing checks.	Failed
1954	N/A	DA	Taxes	Permitting the enactment of a graduated land tax.	Failed
1954	N/A	DS	Taxes	Exempting food from the sales tax.	Failed
1954	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Setting hours of liquor establishments between 8 a.m. and 11 p.m.	Failed
1954	N/A	DS	Taxes	Providing for an additional one cent non-refundable motor vehicle fuel tax for secondary highways.	Failed

Year	Measure Number	Type	Subject Matter	Description	Pass/Fail
1954	N/A	DS	Campaign Finance Reform	Prohibiting members of the Legislature from doing over \$10,000 worth of business annually with the state or its political subdivisions.	Passed
1954	N/A	DS	Taxes	Diverting sales tax collected on automobiles from school and welfare funds to highway construction.	Failed
1955	N/A	DS	Education	Providing for state loan fund for college students with \$1 million from profits of the Bank of North Dakota.	Passed
1956	N/A	DA	Term Limits	Removing 2-term limitation on office of County treasurer.	Passed
1958	N/A	DS	Education	Providing \$450,000 to move the school for the blind from Pembina County to a location near Grand Forks.	Passed
1958	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Permitting changing the name of the North Dakota Agriculture College to the North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.	Failed
1958	N/A	DS	Education	Requiring the reorganization of school districts not operating high schools and providing for their annexation to districts operating high schools.	Failed
1960	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Changing the name of the North Dakota Agriculture College to the North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.	Passed
1962	N/A	DA	Bonds	Allowing the state to bond itself to make loans to companies desiring to establish power generating facilities.	Passed
1962	N/A	DS	Election Reform	Providing for a secret primary election ballot instead of requiring voters to only declare party preference at the polls.	Passed
1962	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Changing terms of office for the most County officials from two to four years.	Passed
1964	N/A	DA	Taxes	Exempt personal property from taxation.	Failed
1964	N/A	DS	Utility Regulation	Repealing statute requiring certain number of crew members on freight trains and self-propelled equipment.	Passed
1964	N/A	DS	Utility Regulation	Requiring daily mixed passenger-freight trains by railroads.	Failed
1964	N/A	DS	Alcohol Regulation	Permitting sale of alcoholic beverages in eating establishments under certain circumstances.	Passed
1964	N/A	DA	Administration of Government	Changing two-year terms to four-year terms for most state officials and the County superintendent of schools.	Passed
1964	N/A	DS	Utility Regulation	Requiring 5-man crew on trains over one-half mile long and switching in municipalities.	Failed
1965	N/A	DS	Taxes	Exempting personal property from taxation.	Failed
1965	N/A	DS	Taxes	Increasing sales tax from 2 1/4% to 3%.	Failed
1966	N/A	DS	Education	Requiring publication of school board proceedings in newspaper.	Passed
1968	N/A	DA	Gaming	Authorizing certain kinds of betting.	Failed
1970	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Repealing the law relating to the Combined Law Enforcement Council.	Failed
1972	N/A	DS	Abortion	To allow physicians to terminate pregnancy if certain per-conditions are present.	Failed
1973	N/A	DA	Apportionment/Redistricting	Requiring that the state be divided into individual Senate Districts and House sub-districts by an appointed nine-member commission.	Failed

Year	Measure Number	Type	Subject Matter	Description	Pass/Fail
1974	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Authorizes small family-owned corporations to engage in farming.	Failed
1974	N/A	DS	Labor	Authorizes new programs to increase employment opportunities.	Failed
1976	N/A	DS	Taxes	Motor vehicle excise tax rates.	Passed
1976	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Limit General Fund expenditures.	Failed
1978	N/A	DS	Health/Medical	State control of health care costs, insurance.	Failed
1978	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Funds to Fish and Game Department.	Passed
1978	N/A	DS	Taxes	Income tax rates: individual, corporate.	Passed
1978	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	State sharing of General Fund revenues.	Passed
1980	N/A	DS	Bonds	Tax-exempt bonds for low-income mortgages.	Passed
1980	N/A	DS	Taxes	6.5% oil extraction tax, use of revenues.	Passed
1982	N/A	M	Nuclear weapons/facilities/waste	Limits development/production of nuclear weapons.	Passed
1982	N/A	DS	Gaming	Place limits on charitable gambling.	Failed
1984	N/A	DA	Gun Regulation	Right to bear arms as a state right.	Passed
1984	N/A	DS	Education	Three junior colleges to local school board control.	Failed
1986	N/A	DS	Labor	Sunday grocery employees - from six to three.	Failed
1986	N/A	DS	Gaming	Establish a state lottery.	Failed
1986	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	More businesses allowed open for retail on Sundays.	Failed
1988	N/A	DA	Gaming	Legislative assembly to establish state lottery.	Failed
1988	N/A	DS	Veteran Affairs	Restore Veterans' Postwar Trust Fund, 1987 balance.	Passed
1990	N/A	DA	Gaming	Electronic video gaming, proceeds.	Failed
1990	N/A	DS	Taxes	Sales, use, motor vehicle taxes for education.	Failed
1990	N/A	DS	Business Regulation	Insurance agents can rebate their commission.	Failed
1990	N/A	DS	Gaming	Regulates private games of chance: video gaming.	Failed
1990	N/A	DA	Gaming	Games of chance: proceeds, Roland Township.	Failed
1992	Measure 5	DS	Term Limits	Term limits on Congress 12/12.	Passed
1992	N/A	DS	Taxes	Water development, sales and use tax.	Failed
1992	N/A	DS	Legal	Prohibit stopping/searching vehicles at random.	Failed
1992	N/A	DS	Environmental Reform	Environmental protection fund, fees on waste.	Failed
1994	N/A	DS	Administration of Government	Provides that cities vote every four years whether to publish the minutes of their meetings.	Passed
1994	N/A	DS	Health/Medical	Provides for the repeal of North Dakota's mandatory seat belt law.	Failed
1996	Measure 4	DA	Veteran Affairs	Makes the veteran's postwar trust fund a permanent fund.	Passed
1996	Measure 5	DA	Term Limits	Informed Voter Law and term limits on state legislature 8/8.	Failed
1996	Measure 6	DA	Term Limits	Direct application for constitutional convention to consider a term limits amendment.	Failed
1998	Measure 2	DA	Election Reform	Would set up a process for the election of Sheriffs	Passed