INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

North Dakota Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund

I. Fund Characteristics and Constraints

The Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund (the Fund) was established for use by the Insurance Department to defray the expenses incurred in discharging its duties as described in NDCC 26.1.

Funding is provided primarily through the collection of fees and fines as specified in NDCC 26.1-01-07.1. Fees and other collections as well as earnings from investments are funding sources.

There is no statutory minimum balance for this fund. However, the Insurance Department relies entirely on the Fund to meet all operating expenses. Therefore, sufficient liquidity and risk control must be maintained at all times to ensure the solvency of the Insurance Department.

In accordance with NDCC 26.1-01-07.1 any cash balance in the Fund after all current biennium expenditures are met must be carried forward for the succeeding biennium. However, when the balance at the end of the biennium exceeds $1.0 million, any excess will be transferred to the general fund in the state treasury. Such transfers are generally made at the end of September or during the first two weeks of October. Operating expenses are paid from the Fund as incurred.

II. Fund Mission

The primary mission of the Fund is to maintain an adequate balance in the fund to meet operating expenses.

III. Responsibilities and Discretion of the State Investment Board (SIB)

The Fund is charged by law under NDCC 21-10-02.1 with the responsibility of establishing policies on investment goals and asset allocation of the Fund. The SIB is charged with implementing policies and asset allocation and investing the assets of the legacy fund in the manner provided in Section 21-10-07--the prudent institutional investor rule. The fiduciaries shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances then prevailing, that an institutional investor of ordinary prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercises in the management of large investments entrusted to it, not in regard to speculation but in regard to the permanent disposition of funds, considering probable safety of capital as well as probable income.

Management responsibility for the investment program not assigned to the SIB in Chapter 21-10 is hereby delegated to the SIB, which must establish written policies for the operation of the investment program consistent with this investment policy.

The SIB may delegate investment responsibility to professional money managers, which are also required to employ investment strategies consistent with the investment policy. Where a money manager has been retained, the SIB's role in determining investment strategy and security selection is supervisory not advisory.

At the discretion of the SIB, the fund's assets may be pooled with other funds. In pooling funds, the SIB may establish whatever asset class pools it deems necessary with specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives appropriate to the prudent investor rule and the objectives of the funds participating in the pool.

The SIB is responsible for establishing criteria, procedures, and making decisions with respect to hiring, retaining, and terminating money managers. The SIB investment responsibility also includes selecting performance measurement services, consultants, report formats, and frequency of meetings with managers.

The SIB shall notify the board within 30 days of any substantial or notable changes in money managers; performance measurement services; and consultants, including hiring or terminating a money manager, performance measurement service, or a consultant.

The SIB will implement necessary changes to this policy in an efficient and prudent manner.

IV. Risk Tolerance

The investment objectives of the Fund reflect the long-term nature of the Fund, but also the low risk tolerance and shorter-term liquidity needs.

V. Investment Objectives

The Fund's investment objectives are expressed in terms of reward and risk expectations relative to investable, passive benchmarks. The Fund's policy benchmark is comprised of policy mix weights of appropriate asset class benchmarks as set by the SIB:

1. The Fund's rate of return, net of fees and expenses, should at least match that of the policy benchmark over a minimum evaluation period of five years.
2. The Fund's risk, measured by the standard deviation of net returns, should be within 1% of the policy benchmark over a minimum evaluation period of five years. For example, if

the policy benchmark is 4%, the Fund's risk should range between 3% and 5% over a five-year period.

3. The risk-adjusted performance of the Fund, net of fees and expenses, should at least match that of the policy benchmark over a minimum evaluation period of five years.

VI. Policy Asset Mix

After consideration of all the inputs and discussion of its own risk tolerance, the Fund has chosen the following asset allocation:

Asset Class	Allocation
Large Cap Domestic Equity	15%
Small Cap Domestic Equity	5%
International Equity	10%
Fixed Income	35%
Real Estate	0%
Cash Equivalents	35%

Rebalancing of the Fund to this target will be done in accordance with the SIB's rebalancing policy, but not less than annually.

VII. Restrictions

While the SIB is responsible for establishing specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives for the investment vehicles in which the Fund's assets will be invested, it is understood that:

1. Futures and options may be used to hedge or replicate underlying index exposure, but not for speculation.
2. Derivative use will be monitored to ensure that undue risks are not taken by the money managers.
3. No transaction may be made that would threaten the tax-exempt status of the Fund.
4. All assets will be held in custody by the State Investment Board's master custodian or such other custodians as are acceptable to the State Investment Board.
5. No unhedged short sales or speculative margin purchases shall be made.
6. Social investing is prohibited unless it meets the Exclusive Benefit Rule and it can be substantiated that the investment must provide an equivalent or superior rate of return for a similar investment with a similar time horizon and similar risk.

For the purpose of this document, Social Investing is defined as the consideration of socially responsible criteria in the investment or commitment of public fund money for the purpose of obtaining an effect other than a maximized return to the Fund.

7. Economically targeted investing is prohibited unless the investment meets the Exclusive Benefit Rule.

   For the purpose of this document economically targeted investment is defined as an investment designed to produce a competitive rate of return commensurate with risk involved, as well as to create collateral economic benefits for a targeted geographic area, group of people, or sector of the economy.

   Also, for the purpose of this document, the Exclusive Benefit Rule is met if the following four conditions are satisfied:

   a. The cost does not exceed the fair market value at the time of investment.
   b. The investment provides the Fund with an equivalent or superior rate of return for a similar investment with a similar time horizon and similar risk.
   c. Sufficient liquidity is maintained in the Fund to permit distributions in accordance with the terms of the plan.
   d. The safeguards and diversity that a prudent investor would adhere to are present.

Where investment characteristics, including yield, risk, and liquidity are equivalent, the Fund's policy favors investments which will have a positive impact on the economy of North Dakota.

VIII. Internal Controls

A system of internal controls must be in place by the SIB to prevent losses of public funds arising from fraud or employee error. Such controls deemed most important are the separation of responsibilities for investment purchases from the recording of investment activity, custodial safekeeping, written confirmation of investment transactions, and established criteria for investment manager selection and monitoring. The annual financial audit must include a comprehensive review of the portfolio, accounting procedures for security transactions, and compliance with the investment policy.

IX. Evaluation and Review

Investment management of the Fund will be evaluated against the Fund's investment objectives and investment performance standards. Emphasis will be placed on five year results. Evaluation should include an assessment of the continued feasibility of achieving the investment objectives and the appropriateness of the Investment Policy Statement for achieving those objectives.

Performance reports will be provided to the Insurance Department periodically, but not less than annually. Such reports will include asset returns and allocation data as well as information regarding all significant and/or material matters and changes pertaining to the investment of the Fund, including, but not limited to:

1. A list of the advisory services managing investments for the board.
2. A list of investments at market value, compared to previous reporting period, of each fund managed by each advisory service.
3. Earnings, percentage earned, and change in market value of each fund's investments.
4. Comparison of the performance of each fund managed by each advisory service to other funds under the board's control and to generally accepted market indicators.
5. All material legal or legislative proceedings affecting the SIB.
6. Compliance with this investment policy statement.