

1/31/2023

House Education, 2023 HB1382

Chairman Heinert and Members of the House Education Committee,

I would like to take a moment to express my support for HB1382.

I am sure that you are all aware that tools, PPE, workwear, equipment, books and curriculum have all suffered the impact of inflation like any other commodity. Although the common opinion may exist that there are no costs to students in registered apprenticeships, this is not the case. Most such programs are employer-funded and economically organized, and are therefore not able to pay for many or the items that are necessary for a student to work in industry. This sometimes causes young men and women to decline an offer of apprenticeship, or to leave a program once started, because they simply cannot afford it.

However, if HB1382 were successful, plainly stated, it would make registered apprenticeship available to more high school graduates. This is very important in a time of unprecedented growth for our state when apprentice able occupations are in great need of workers. Apprentices in North Dakota live and work here, and therefore directly contribute to the continued economic growth of our state. What a great investment in our future, by investing in the skills of our people.

Please continue to pursue HB1382 for the future of our high school graduates, our eligible employers, and our state in general.

Thank you,



Adam Kidwell

Director of Education

Dakotas Area Electrical Apprenticeship and Training Fund