



HB 1382

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Christopher Scott, North Dakota Student Association

701-340-3380 | Christopher.m.scott@ndus.edu

Chair Sorvaag and members of the committee: My name is Christopher Scott, I am current President of the North Dakota Student Association, and I am testifying in support of HB 1382. If passed this bill would extend the effectiveness of the ND Scholarship to 2030 and to expand its eligibility to apprenticeship programs.

The North Dakota Student Association was established in 1969 dedicated to ensuring that students have a voice at the table in policy that affects Higher Education. We consist of delegates from each of the 11 public institutions meeting monthly to engage students in ND Higher Education policy. Our mission is to empower students, create collaboration between the student bodies of the North Dakota public universities, and to give a student perspective on higher education policy.

The ND Scholarship Program currently provides 750 semester scholarships and 500 quarter-term scholarships to students currently attending an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in the state. The program, as is, has helped hundreds, if not thousands students, making college more affordable for them. The NDSA, every biennium passes its legislative priorities for that legislative session. This session, that resolution is [NDSA-09-2223](#). Some of the priorities enumerated in this resolution is increasing access to student financial aid for NDUS students, and ensuring NDUS students receive education preparing them to enter workforces in emerging technologies.

HB 1382 directly falls into both of these priorities, and furthermore the proposed expansion to provide scholarship to students enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program within the state

further ensures NDUS students receive education preparing them to enter workforces in emerging technologies. This program incentivizes high school students graduating from North Dakota to stay in North Dakota, and to go further in their educational career within the North Dakota, and so the NDSA supports HB 1382, and would ask for a DO PASS recommendation.