

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2055 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2291

2001 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2291

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2291

Senate Education Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 01-29-01

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0 - 49.5
2 (01-29-01)	X		13.1 - 34.2
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Andrea Johnson</i>			

Minutes: **CHAIRMAN FREBORG** called the committee to order.

**Roll call was taken with all members present.**

**CHAIRMAN FREBORG** called the hearing on SB 2291 which relates to the transfer of credits among institutions of higher education.

**Testimony in support of SB 2291:**

**SENATOR HEITKAMP**, District 27, stated this is a bill that asks the question, "are we a higher education system or not". He feels that there is not a need to be building larger living facilities on large campuses when there is plenty of room for students at some of the smaller campuses. This bill would allow credits to transfer from one state institution to another. The bill would take effect 1-1-02. He would like to see the University System be a system that works together when it comes to transferring credits. Passage of the bill will give the student and parents the peace of mind that the investment made into one of our smaller institutions will carry over to the larger

ones. SENATOR CHRISTENSON asked if there is an explanation of why implementing the transfer of credits is taking so long.

SENATOR HOLMBERG, District 17, testified. He feels a single system is necessary. There are two aspects to this bill. One is a quality aspect and the other is a financial aspect. Classes of general education nature almost always transfer. The problem comes with transferring some credits in a student's major. The quality and the rigor of course work at any of the state institutions is under the purview of the Board of Higher Education. If a course is not of the rigor and quality at the old institution as it is at the new institution, which will allow the student to progress, then that needs to be addressed by the Board, the faculty, and the University system. On the other hand, the money paid for a course by a tuition paying student is wasted if the credit won't transfer. This should be of concern to every taxpayer in the state. SENATOR COOK asked how we make courses comparable in rigor and quality. SENATOR HOLMBERG stated the Board is working on this issue. He and others feel this bill gives a "little boost" to the Board so they will come to a conclusion on this issue soon.

ARNOLD THOMAS, President ND Healthcare Association, feels there needs to be a tool in place to help transferability. He is not supporting nor opposing the bill as historically the Healthcare Association has been against mandates. The question has been on equivalency. Without the ability to transfer from institution to institution, we are putting an undue burden on students. Recently the Board of Higher Education endorsed a resolution that will permit Williston to extend its educational programs on a regional basis. With the technology we have today, the ability to transfer needs to be solved. This will add to the overall professional goals of the students. Other educational facilities across the country are looking to expand their services

to wherever people happen to be. If our state is not ready to meet the needs of our students, others will find that borders are artificial.

**Testimony in opposition to SB 2291:**

LARRY ISAAC, Chancellor University Systems, feels progress has been made in this area. Over 1600 courses are identified as common. Faculty groups from all over the state have all been working together to do this. This bill gives an opportunity to the University System to provide some good information to the committee. He feels this bill could be a disservice to students in that it mandates transfer for all requirements. An Associate degree at one school will transfer all general course credits from one institution to another. An on-line Associate degree is available. He feels the effort of the University System is a successful effort. There has been a lot less complaints on this subject over the past several years. He feels this issue is properly delegated to the Board and to the faculties at the campuses. Feels we need to maintain the ability of those people to do that. He feels the courses required for a degree in the student's major need a certain rigor and should be taken at the institution where the degree is being given.

MICHEL HILLMAN, ND University System, presented the committee with a resource packet. (A Student's Guide to Transfer Within the ND University System; a report by Kay Fulp, Coordinator of Articulation and Transfer; sheets on transfers, We Help You Succeed). He stated that faculty meets to determine which courses are common. He stated BSC has two types of programs, one prepares students to transfer and the other prepares students to directly enter the job market. Several years ago over 50,000 credits transferred into NDSU. Of these, students were dissatisfied with just 15 of those credit hours. The problem they had was the Governor knew about all 15 credits. MR HILLMAN feels the passage of this bill will complicate transfers. He sees no large problem with this but a few minor ones that can be readily fixed. He

thinks this bill would end the faculty discussions that are necessary to make articulation and transfer possible. SENATOR COOK asked what is in place to assure the same rigor and standards are on each campus. MR HELLMAN stated through faculty discussions they set the level of skills and knowledge expected to gain in the course. The Board hopes to implement a tracking program that will track students from campus to campus. There is no hard statistical data as of now. There was more discussion. He feels the biggest mistake the school can make is telling a student he is prepared for upper division work when he is not. The second biggest mistake is telling him the courses he took do not count. More discussion. The problems are not all solved and will probably not be solved. However, great strides have been made.

KARLEE SMITH, student at BSC, presented testimony. (see attached).

There was no further testimony on SB 2291.

VICE CHAIRMAN FLAKOLL closed the hearing on SB 2291.

01-29-01, Tape 2, Side A, 13.1 - 34.2

SENATOR FLAKOLL stated we need to let the University System do their job, and according to testimony, they are making every effort to try to alleviate the problems addressed in the bill. The committee feels the transferability of credits should be done, but there still needs to be work done as far as the content and rigor from campus to campus. CHAIRMAN FREBORG stated he feels this bill will send a small message to the University System to try to fix this problem. The deadline should be far enough in the future to allow the legislature to revisit this issue again and find out if the System can work this out. More discussion. SENATOR CHRISTENSON feels it is a very challenging directive to transfer credits at the University level. SENATOR COOK has a concern that the System will do this if the Legislature so mandates, but the actual content and rigor won't be the same and the student will ultimately be hurt by this. More discussion.

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**Senate Education Committee  
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2291  
Hearing Date 01-29-01**

**SENATOR COOK** moved to adopt an amendment to change the effective date to July 1, 2003

instead of 2002. Seconded by **SENATOR O'CONNELL**. Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes. 0 No. 0

Absent. The amendment is adopted.

**SENATOR COOK** moved a **DO PASS** as Amended. Seconded by **SENATOR**

**CHRISTENSON**.

**SENATOR FLAKOLL** moved a substitute motion to amend the bill to state the student needs a

2.0 GPA instead of 2.5. Seconded by **SENATOR O'CONNELL**. Roll Call Vote: 6 Yes. 1 No.

0 Absent. The amendment is adopted.

**Roll Call Vote on motion to Do Pass as Amended: 6 YES. 0 NO. 0 Absent. Motion**

**Carried.**

**Carrier: SENATOR CHRISTENSON**

10577.0201  
Title.0300

Adopted by the Education Committee  
January 29, 2001

*JB*  
1-29-1

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2291

Page 1, line 10, replace "2.5" with "2.0"

Page 1, line 13, replace "2002" with "2003"

Renumber accordingly



Date: 1-29-01  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2291

Senate Education Committee

- Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_
- or
- Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number amend

Action Taken Do pass on amendment

Motion Made By Sen. Cook Seconded By Sen. O'Connell

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Freborg - Chairman	✓		Senator Christenson	✓	
Senator Flakoll - Vice Chairman	✓		Senator Kelsh	✓	
Senator Cook	✓		Senator O'Connell	✓	
Senator Wanzek	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent: change date to 2003

Date: 1-29-01  
Roll Call Vote #: 2

**2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES**  
**BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2291**

Senate Education Committee

Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number Do Pass, amendment

Action Taken Substitute motion

Motion Made By Sen. Flakoll Seconded By Sen. O'Connell

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Freborg - Chairman	✓		Senator Christenson	✓	
Senator Flakoll - Vice Chairman	✓		Senator Kelsh	✓	
Senator Cook	✓		Senator O'Connell		✓
Senator Wanzek	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 1

Absent 0

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent: Change 2.5 to 2.0

