

Sixty-first  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO.**

Introduced by

Representative Kasper

1 A BILL for an Act to require that the commissioner of higher education study the interplay  
2 between the North Dakota university system and American Indians.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION - STUDY - INTERACTION**  
5 **WITH AMERICAN INDIANS.** The state commissioner of higher education shall study during  
6 the 2009-10 interim, the interplay between the North Dakota university system and American  
7 Indians. Specifically, the commissioner shall address ways in which the North Dakota  
8 university system as a whole and the individual campuses can better interact with American  
9 Indians through improved communication, collaboration, and relationship building activities. In  
10 addition, the commissioner shall focus on ways in which American Indians can be encouraged  
11 to pursue options in higher education, thereby bringing economic benefit to their families and  
12 communities and ways in which the university system and the individual campuses can provide  
13 tutoring, mentoring, and other types of assistance necessary to ensure that the retention rates  
14 and graduation rates of American Indian students are increased. The commissioner shall  
15 report any findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement  
16 the recommendations, to the sixty-second legislative assembly.