

*House Appropriations Committee
Education & Environment Division*

SB 2003 – NDUS

Andrew Alexis Varvel

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Chairman Monson and Members of the Education & Environment Division:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I'm an alumnus of UND. I live in Bismarck.

On the one hand, North Dakota higher education needs a good appropriation to maintain itself and hopefully rebuild academic programs hurt by the 2017 budget cuts. We need to look to the future.

On the other hand, North Dakota higher education needs to be sent a clear message to avoid the temptation to create massive layers of bureaucracy. The focus should be academic programs. The last thing we need is newly minted administrators with a savior complex descending from the heavens to rescue the people of our state from our supposedly benighted ignorance.

Considering a recent emphasis with all of the enthusiasm of a convert on diversity, equity, and inclusion that has descended upon UND and NDSU, you should consider including language modeled after HB 544 (New Hampshire legislature) to protect state employees from stereotyping, scapegoating, and humiliation from any management tempted to regard the events of Smith College and Evergreen State College to be a blueprint for the future.

<https://legiscan.com/NH/text/HB544/id/2238380>

Thank you.

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