



2023 House Bill 1240
House Education Committee
Representative Pat Heinert, Chairman
January 23, 2023

Chairman Heinert and members of the House Education Committee, I am Tim Blasl, President of the North Dakota Hospital Association (NDHA). I provide this testimony in support of House Bill 1240. I ask that you give the bill a **Do Pass** recommendation.

Hospitals support this bill because it helps with the number one challenge: workforce. The skilled workforce student loan repayment program and skilled workforce scholarship program help attract and retain individuals with professional and technical skills. During times of workforce shortages programs like these become so valuable.

Allowing the state board of higher education to transfer money between the funds allows flexibility so dollars can be used appropriately.

Please give the bill a Do Pass recommendation. Thank you for the opportunity.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Blasl, President
North Dakota Hospital Association