



HB 1240

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Chair Heinert and Members of the Committee: My name is Christopher Scott, I am current President of the North Dakota Student Association, and I am writing this to express support for HB 1240, which allocates funding for the skilled workforce repayment scholarships

The North Dakota Student Association is a student organization 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!

During the NDSA's November General Assembly Meeting at Bismarck State College, the General Assembly voted and approved Resolutions [NDSA-08-2223](#) and [NDSA-09-2223](#). NDSA-08-2223 is a Resolution in support of North Dakota University System (NDUS) Scholarships and NDSA-09-2223 establishes the NDSA Priorities going into the 68th Legislative Session. A few of the priorities that the NDSA established in NDSA-09-2223 was increasing student financial aid for NDUS students and ensuring NDUS students receive education preparing them to enter workforces in emerging technologies!

That said, HB 1240 is an effective bill that while NDUS students receive education preparing them to enter workforce in emerging technologies, and that they have increased access to financial aid in the form of a scholarship or a loan repayment after they enter the workforce! Furthermore, HB 1240 also helps address critical workforce needs in our state and help recruit

and retain workforce in these areas, making North Dakota more competitive, keeping North Dakota students in North Dakota, effectively retaining our valuable talent! And so, with the above points made, the NDSA supports HB 1240.