



# North Dakota Small Organized Schools

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## Testimony in Support of HB 1105

Chairman Beard and members of the Senate Education Committee. The North Dakota Center for Distance Education (ND CDE) is a critical partner for NDSOS members and for all schools in North Dakota. NDCDE has a long history of providing quality service to school districts and their students. I stand in support of ND CDE and this legislation. This legislation is needed to ensure that school districts are involved and work in concert the ND CDE to best serve students and parents when making educational choices.

HB 1105 also clarifies what most believed was the intent of legislation passed in the 2023 legislative session by avoiding unnecessary duplication and associated cost of taking virtual courses, especially when the course is offered by the local school district. HB 1105 also allows schools to develop policy that may place fiscal responsibility on the student and parent for costs of virtual instruction when classes are failed, and yet requires the school pay for virtual instruction if the district does not offer a course that would contribute to on time graduation.

NDSOS supports this legislation and believes it address what was the intent of the legislation passed during the 2023 session.

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**The mission of NDSOS is to provide leadership for the small/rural schools in North Dakota and to support legislation favorable to their philosophy while opposing legislation that is harmful.**