

Written Testimony

HB 1142

Hours Appropriations Human Resources Division

Chairman Nelson

Chairman Nelson and the members of the committee, my name is Garrett Calkins. I apologize for not being able to attend in person as I spent the weekend on a forty-eight-hour shift in my pursuit of my dream as a health care provider and have classes to attend at the same time as the committee meeting. I am currently a full time Emergency Medical Technician and a Freshman at the University of North Dakota. I started and competed in HOSA Future Health Professionals during my junior year at Killdeer High School. During that same year I applied to be on the ND HOSA state officer board and was awarded the position. I went to several HOSA international competitions and leadership conventions. During that time, it showed me how to be a better leader on a local and state level and also where I wanted to take my passion for medicine. Throughout my term as a ND HOSA state officer, I obtained my Emergency Medical Responder certification and made it to the International HOSA Convention where I was awarded the Outstanding State Leadership Award. HOSA helped me to see that I loved medicine and started actively pursuing going into the medical field. After graduating from Killdeer High School, I decided to pursue getting an Emergency Medical Technician certification which I did during the middle of the COVID-19 Pandemic. I also started college with a major in Biology: Professional Health Sciences Emphasis while also being in the Pre-Med program. I am currently working toward my dream of being a Pediatrician. Without HOSA and NDAHEC and the funding they receive from the state of ND, I most likely would be following a different path than the one I am currently on. I really appreciate being apart of HOSA as it gave me an opportunity

to work closely with Killdeer Area Ambulance Service and help guide younger students toward where they might want to go in the medical field.

-Garrett Calkins