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COMMITTEES: Education, Chairman Energy and Natural Resources

Good morning Chairman Owens and House Education committee, for the Record my name is Senator Don Schaible, representing District 31. I am here to introduce SB 2272 which is dubbed the Career Builder program last session. This bill was introduced last session to incentivize workers in the North Dakota work force in high need occupations. The conversation on whether a scholarship or a student loan forgiveness program was the best way to attract works to this state, so the idea to try both was suggested. Money was appropriated and the program was implemented. The problem was that no money was allocated for promotion and COVID made a real test of this Career Builders Program impossible. Six million dollars was appropriated from the unreserved profits from the Bank of North Dakota. Very little money of that amount was used so the intent of this bill is to use the remaining amount of that six million dollars to continue the original intent of the Career Builders Program.

Representation from ND University System are here to provide the details and to explain other improvements in this bill.

Mr. Chairmen and committee, I would try to answer your questions.