

**House Education  
SB2289**

**March 16, 2021**

Chairman Owens and members of the committee, my name is Wayde Sick, State Director of the Department of Career and Technical Education. I am submitting testimony in support of SB2289.

Since the Department of Public Instruction submitted its Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) state plan, the state's schools have been striving to provide students a choice ready education, as outlined by the Choice Ready Framework. Choice Ready is really a measurement of what a school is offering and not necessarily what student see as important, even though the Choice Ready Framework has been vetted. The Choice Ready Framework not only encourages students to complete a number of essential skills, it helps them determine their own paths by graduating high school college, workforce and/or military ready. In order to make the Choice Ready Framework more relevant to students and begin to revolutionize education in North Dakota, it may be time to align the scholarship, which our students find very important, to the Choice Ready Framework. This alignment makes sense and drives all of us, government, educators, students, parents and employers to speak the same language and value what the state has determined as a credible measurement tool of student success.

Thank you and I will try to answer any questions you may have.