



DICKINSON STATE UNIVERSITY

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January 17, 2023

The Honorable Pat Heinert, Chair
House Education Committee
68th Legislative Assembly
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505

Re: House Bill 1178

Dear Chair Heinert and House Education Committee Members:

I strongly support House Bill 1178, which would make it possible for persons representing universities, parochial or private schools, and private sector entities to serve on boards of area career and technology centers.

For some CTE Centers, like the Southwest CTE Academy, universities, private schools, and industry are key partners. Indeed, the Southwest CTE is the outgrowth of a CTE Task Force in the Dickinson area that included DSU, Trinity Schools, and local industry. All are key stakeholders, so all should have the opportunity to be represented on the Southwest CTE Academy Board. At Dickinson State, we look forward to that opportunity.

Please note that the statute does not require career and technology centers to include representatives of these entities on their boards. Instead, it simply makes this an option. Some CTE boards will exercise that option, while others might decide not to do so. Thus, House Bill 1178 advances local autonomy.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Easton