

Monroe, Beverley

From: Halvorson, Lloyd <lloyd.halvorson@lrsc.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 2:05 PM
To: hnat@ndlegis.gov.; NDLA, H EDU
Cc: Johnson, Lisa; Darling, Doug; Wood, Erin; Driessen, Daniel; Zehrer, Casey; Weber, Brady
Subject: HB 1531 Opposition Testimony

On behalf of President Doug Darling, Lake Region State College will stand in opposition to the amendments submitted this morning to HB 1531 and the inclusion of waivers and scholarships that would be prohibited. Lake Region State College strongly encourages a Do Not Pass recommendation.

President Darling did not object to the original bill as we do not waive the application fee based on the identified factors. We do however, find it important to provide scholarships and waivers to individuals based on race, ethnicity, and national origin. We try to issue waivers as encouraged by SBHE policy up to but not exceeding 3% of our FTE, which amounts to approximately 25 ½-tuition waivers. These waivers are provided to domestic students only and are targeted primarily to Native American students. In addition, we offer 10 International to Domestic rate waivers and allocate a few scholarships or waivers to help our athletic teams recruit an international student or two each year.

We are expected to educate students to work in a global economy and it is hard to put that global perspective on display in a classroom in Devils Lake, ND without these tools. We need these scholarships and waivers in order to help ensure a diverse student body and allow our students to learn first-hand about other cultures, other countries, and other regions of the world. We are an open enrollment institution that does not prioritize enrollment by ACT score or high school GPA. We welcome all students to live and learn at Lake Region State College. The “merit process” the author refers to in his testimony this morning is not applicable at Lake Region State College.

Please reject these amendments.



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