UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

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Chairman Elkin and members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Faith Wahl, and I serve as the Student Body President at the University of North Dakota (UND). I am providing testimony opposing HB 1446, relating to a pilot program for tenured faculty review at institutions of higher education.

On Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023, UND Student Senate voted 16-1-4 to oppose HB 1446. *SR2223-12: Opposing HB 1446* was voted on by representatives of the Student Body at UND who were elected by their peers to represent their voices on campus and statewide issues. While the current version of HB 1446 does not include UND in the pilot program, students expressed concerns around the program expanding to UND in the future. They also expressed concerns the recruitment of quality faculty to teach in North Dakota and the President of a University making unilateral decisions about a faculty member's career. Furthermore, students had discussion on a University President making a decision about a faculty member who has expertise in a particular area while the President may not have an educational background related to the faculty member's work. This could result in a situation where uninformed decisions about current practices and research in a field are made as a result of HB 1446. Please read the resolution that outlines these concerns alongside others <u>here</u> or find it attached as a separate document in the testimony submissions.

Chairman Elkin and members of the Senate Education committee, I respectfully request a **DO NOT PASS on HB 1446**. Thank you for your time, and I am available to answer any questions that you might have.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith Wahl

UND Student Body President