

**Senate Bill 2145 Testimony**  
**Senator Kyle Davison**  
**January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Good Morning, I'm Senator Kyle Davison from District 41 representing south Fargo. I'm here today to support an innovative workforce training program that doesn't quite fit into the normal structure of CTE in ND.

The Emerging Digital Academy (EDA) started in 2019 and it operates a 20-week software development program that teaches not only the concepts of coding and software design, but how to build modern apps.

Because EDA offers workforce training, it's regulated under the umbrella of the CTE board of North Dakota. The CTE board's rules don't mesh with a coding school bootcamp like EDA because the rules requiring accreditation. Accreditation of coding schools doesn't make sense because the standards of what is being taught changes so rapidly.

That is why SB 2145 seeks to exempt the coding school from having to get accredited. EDA will still need to get licensed by CTE, which has a lot of benefits—including access to student financial aid—but they won't need to be accredited.

The leaders of EDA are here today to offer any detailed information you may find useful. Additionally, in working with CTE leadership, they will be offering a friendly amendment that I support and I know EDA supports. Thank you to them for making this bill better.

I'd ask for your support of SB 2145, which will help modernize the regulation of workforce training for coding bootcamps.