## Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly

NDCEL Testimony in favor of HB 1369 with request for amendments:

Chairman Heinert and members of the committee. I am here today in testimony of support with some requests for revision on the basis of need in this bill.

**Per Pupil Payment:** Our first request is to shift to a **4%** / **4%** increase in the per pupil payment. Rationale: At the last interim ed-funding meeting, it was indicated that the increased input from the Common Schools Trust Fund as well as K12 turnback from last session would result in the ability to do a 4/4 with no increased input from the general fund.

**Declining Enrollment:**We have a need to address declining enrollment that many of our districts are experiencing. To account for this we have this definition amendment request:

- 1 15.1-27-03.1. WEIGHTED AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP DETERMINATION.
  - (a) **Definition of ADM:** For the purposes of state education funding, "Average Daily Membership" (ADM) shall be defined as the total aggregate membership of students over a given period divided by the number of days in that period. It is determined to be based on on-time funding or three year rolling average or whatever is greater
- 2 (b) Three-Year Rolling Average Calculation: Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of determining state aid, a three year rolling average shall be computed by averaging the ADM of the district for the current school year and the ADMs of the two immediately preceding school years.
  - © On-Time Funding: Notwithstanding any other provision of all, for the purpose of determining state aid, on-time funding is based on the student ADM count as of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction Fall Enrollment Report.

**English Language Learners:** We have discussed often (and I have individuals from the field here to discuss specific school based instances) we have a tremendous need for additional funding for EL and for our at-risk student population. We have amendments requested for the bill to address those requests.

1	(1)		On a test of English language proficiency approved by the superintendent of
2			public instruction are determined to be least proficient and placed in any the first-of
			six categories of proficiency; and
3			(2) Are enrolled in a program of instruction for English language learners;
4—		<del>d.</del>	0.28 the number of full-time equivalent students who:
5			(1) On a test of English language proficiency approved by the superintendent of
6			public instruction are determined to be more proficient than students placed
7			in the first of six categories of proficiency and therefore placed in the second
8—			of six categories of proficiency; and
9			(2) Are enrolled in a program of instruction for English language learners;

## At Risk Student factor:

0.025 the number of students representing that percentage of the total number of

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students in average daily membership which is equivalent to the three-year average percentage of students in grades three through eight who are eligible for free or reduced lunches under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act [42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.]; enrolled in average daily membership, in order to support at-risk student

