HB1404 House Education Committee Hearing Representative Heinert, Committee Chairman

Testimony of: Cynthia Schreiber-Beck, District 25 Representative

House Bill No. 1404 provides updates to the North Dakota scholarship.

To summarize, the bill adds the following options for students meeting the indicators to qualify for the North Dakota Scholarship:

- In the Postsecondary Ready pathway, it provides students with the option of earning a score equivalent to a 24 on the ACT on the new NDA+ Assessment, which could then be used in place of receiving a score of 24 on the ACT.
- In the Workforce Ready pathway, it provides students with the option of earning a score equivalent to a 24 on the ACT on the new NDA+ Assessment, which could then be used in place of receiving a score of 24 on the ACT, the same as it would in the Postsecondary Ready section.
- The bill draft also removes some soon-to-be obsolete language in the Workforce Ready pathway relating to the ACT test that was used for accountability. Students will no longer have this option, as after this year's seniors graduate, there will be no more students that would have taken the ACT for accountability. Fortunately, students going forward will have the possibility of meeting this indicator by scoring proficient or better on the new NDA+ exam.
- The bill draft also includes the option of completing two credits of a military coursework pathway as an additional option to be used for the additional indicators of the military ready pathway.

Jim Upgren, from the Department of Public Instruction, will provide more in-depth information regarding House Bill No. 1404.

I am requesting your favorable consideration of House Bill No. 1404.