



# North Dakota Senate

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## Senator Josh Boschee

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## COMMITTEES:

Education  
Workforce Development

### **SB 2239 Testimony Senate Workforce Development Committee January 30, 2025**

Chair Wobbema and fellow Members of the Senate Workforce Development Committee,

I bring to you SB 2239, which would create a grant program to support apprenticeships throughout the state. During the 2023 legislative session, the Assembly supported the expansion of the North Dakota Scholarship to cover expenses related to North Dakota students enrolling in approved apprenticeships in North Dakota. This was to support students who followed their choice ready plan to enter the workforce through a registered apprenticeship rather than post-secondary education. It also supported the goal of the Workforce Development Council to grow apprenticeship opportunities to train qualified workers for North Dakota businesses.

As the newly enacted statute was implemented, it was realized that many of the students who wished to access the North Dakota Scholarship for their registered apprenticeship did not qualify for the Scholarship based on the GPA requirements. In an effort to continue to support the growth in registered apprenticeship opportunities and assist individuals with the ability to afford the startup costs associated with many apprenticeships, the creation of this grant program is before you.

Some of our state's experts on registered apprenticeships will follow me to speak about the opportunities this grant program will provide. I hope you'll provide SB 2239 your support and I'm happy to stand for any questions or comments you may have.