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La Costa Richard
Operator's Signature

10/6/03
Date

2003 HOUSE EDUCATION

HB 1444

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Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1444
House Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 28, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		150-3000
1	x		5889-end
1		x	00-1320
1		x	2000-2874
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Linda Grechtner</i>			

Minutes: **Chairman Kelsch** opened hearing on HB 1444.

Rep. Kroeber, District 12, Jamestown, See Attached Testimony.

(350) Rep. Jon Nelson : In case of the present practice, who (administration or teachers) are the representative.

Kroeber: The list is on the second page, read the list.

Rep. Jon Nelson : In fact the two local district representatives 'may or may not' include a classroom teacher, administrators, school board members. Who is included in that definition today?

Kroeber: Certainly they could be, may be classroom teachers, but they do not have to be. This would require that at least two classroom teachers presently engaged in education on this 12 member voting board.

Rep. Jon Nelson Who are we cutting out if we make this change, who is one there that would not be tomorrow?

Kroeber: I don't know who they are. I do not have a clue who they are.

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House Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB1444
Hearing Date January 28, 2003

LeAnn Nelson, Director of Professional Development with NDEA

I little background on me. In the 1980's I graduated with a BA in elementary education and minor in computer information systems. At that time they did not know how to connect education with the technology. I ended up taking a lot of courses that I didn't need, which was a lot of programing courses, cobalt and etc. With education technology that is not the direction that technology went. So in the early 1990's I was the technology coordinator in a school district. In that position, I helped in purchasing the tools, technology, train teachers on the uses of software. O this it was Microsoft word. How do you use. We didn't get into how to integrate it into your classroom. Until recently, I assisted educators with integration of technology into curriculum. To successfully integrate technology it is important that teachers understand how to successfully integrate so that it enhances the curriculum. This means that they have to use the technology to learning strategies, align to technology standards, assess a tool successfulness by meeting the goals and objectives, and support and facilitate the use of technology with the students.

With initiatives such as the ND Teaching of Technology, ND educators are making huge strides in successfully integrating technology. It is not easy process. It is a different way of thinking and learning technology.. Even though I have researched, trained, and have observed successful integration, I have not actually been involved in implementing into the classroom. Because I have not been in the classroom for several years. This is why we feel it is important to have teachers on the Council, they give that different perspective.

Rep. Mueller Do you know who fills the positions on the board?

Nelson: No I do not.

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Yolanda Richardson
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10/16/03
Date

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House Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB1444
Hearing Date January 28, 2003

Rep. Haas I the requirements for the council, there is also a rep. from the ND Assoc. of Technology Leaders, are you a member of that organization?

Nelson: No.

Rep. Haas Do you know who represents that organization?

Nelson: No

OPPOSITION

Lisa Feldner, Chairman of the Education Technology Council, See Attached Testimony

Rep. Hawken: What is wrong with making classroom teachers mandatory?

Feldner: We feel that teachers are already well represented. And we feel that if you mandate two teachers this time the next time you will mandate two technology directors.

Rep. Hawken: From this list, and we work with these people often, I would guess that a percentage of these people that head these organizations. They may have been a teacher but they are not now. I think what this is looking at is the person who is currently in the classroom doing everything that you are talking about.

Rep. Hanson There are seven members who are educators, where, who, and what they do.

Feldner: listed them

Bev Nielson, ND School Boards Association

We have 1 teacher, 1 administrator. We have a teacher, the Governor did appoint a classroom teacher. We are okay and working well together. We do not object to an amendment to this bill to make that 1 teacher for sure.

Rep. Mueller Does the Governor receive a list for the appointments.

Page 4
House Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB1444
Hearing Date January 28, 2003

Nielson, He wasn't required to pull from a list, these were his appointments, He was directed in the other ones.

Chairman Kelsch By the looks in the statue, he selects from a list of three nominees for 4 of the positions, and the two representatives of the school districts are his appointments.

Nielson: Lisa said he did receive a list from NDEA.

Rep. Mueller Interesting point in your testimony earlier, when you said that as your perception, is that she is one of the best on that committee. If that is the case, it is the person involved in the classroom, knowing exactly what it is for the students to learn technology.

Nielson: When those are the discussions, she is very helpful. When we are talking about statewide working and networks, Lisa is a key person. They are play a role.

Dean Bard, ND Small Organized Schools

See Attached Testimony, Our Organization has adopted #6 on this form: All schools should have access to improved distance learning technology for instructional purposes....

I have not heard any human cry that the make up of this council needs to be changed. It seems to me that if teachers have an interest in serving.

Robert Pope, Nexus Innovations

We were the firm that was asked to study and make recommendation for the make up of this council. The purpose of the board is to set policy and to make strategic decisions regarding to technology for education. Committee members should have merit and not be mandated. A teacher who has a strong passion for technology should make application or make it known to the council.

Salvatore Riccardi
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

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House Education Committee
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Rep. Jon Nelson Value of classroom teacher and the current make up and offered a suggestive amendment. Is that something you would look upon as not as restrictive or doable?

Pope: Certainly doable. Like I said earlier, the person needs to stand on merit for the appointment. The Governor has latitude statewide to make that appointment, he is better off.

Rep. Jon Nelson I agree with you about the merits.

NEUTRAL

Dan Pohl, Director of the Council

We are functioning very well right now, we are only 1 1/2 years old. The two school districts reps who currently serve on the council. The two reps were on the old board and the Governor felt that they would bring continuity to the board. As terms expire, it is important for me as the Director to have individuals of a good broad base of stakeholders on the council. And the flexibility that is given now allows the council to tell the Governor the direction we are going in and the tell him who would be valuable.

Rep. Jon Nelson how many times can they be re-appointed?

Pohl: No term limit.

Closed Hearing

Committee work later in the day.

Chairman Kelsch The amendment that Bev Nielsen proposed, read propsed amendment. see attached.

Vice Chair Johnson putting this into statute, the example given they had two teachers and one moved to principal, does he have to resign from the board now?

Chairman Kelsch just one has to be, that is a minimum not the max.

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House Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB1444
Hearing Date January 28, 2003

Rep. Norland I don't think we should change this at all. I can't imagine that the governor who is in charge of appointing for that board, to have less than one active classroom teacher. If one is lost, the board would recommend to the Governor that they need the appointments to be such. I don't see any reason to change this.

Rep. Haas There hasn't been a problem with the structure. They all commented how well it is doing.

Rep. Sitte I don't want to narrow it much for this board.

Rep. Herbel Functioning for 1 1/2 years with no problems and don't fix a problem that doesn't exist. Wait until there is.

Rep. Meler moved to DO NOT PASS, Vice Chair Johnson second the motion.

discussion; I hate looking for solutions when there is no problem.

Rep. Mueller be proactive, so that there is not problem down the road.

Rep. Hunskor Current make up of council, it is possible not to have a teacher on this board, it is possible to mandate to have at least one teacher.

Chairman Kelsch My guess is that NDEA goes into the Gov's office with recommendations

Rep. Hawken: Many boards have guidelines, therefore we don't need it in statute.

Vote on the DO NOT PASS. passed 11-3-0

Chairman Kelsch reserve the right to reconsider this vote later today.

Staggering years and if someone left before the next session. **Rep. Haas** made the motion to reconsider HB 1444, Rep. Hanson second. roll call vote: 8-4-2

Rep. Sitte was asked to work with Mark on the amendment and bring it back this afternoon.

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House Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number HB1444
Hearing Date January 28, 2003

Chairman Kelsch opened work on 1444.

(2000) Chairman Kelsch See new amendment. reviewed.

Rep. Norland We are getting to specific in the amendment

Rep. Mueller moved a DO PASS on the amendment, Rep. Solberg second the motion
voice vote, passed.

Rep. Jon Nelson moved DO PASS as AMENDED, Rep. Mueller seconded the motion.

Vote 14-0-0, carried by Rep. Solberg

PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1444

Page 1, line 6, overstrike "Two", after "districts" insert "A school district representative who is appointed by the governor." remove "individuals"

Page 1, line 7, after "board" insert a comma, after "by" insert "a"

Page 1, line 8, replace "districts" with "district", replace "teachers" with "teacher.", overstrike "one of which has an"

Page 1, after line 8 insert:

i. "A school district representative who is appointed by the governor and comes from a school district that has an
k."

Page 1, line 9, replace the comma with a period

Page 1, remove line 10

Renumber accordingly

The amended version of HB 1444 is intended to read as follows:

- i. A school district representative who is appointed by the governor, licensed to teach by the educational standards and practices board, and currently employed by a public school district in this state as a classroom teacher.
- j. A school district representative who is appointed by the governor and comes from a school district that has an enrollment in kindergarten through grade twelve of fewer than four hundred.

Date: 1/25/03
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1444

House HOUSE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass

Motion Made By Meier Seconded By Johnson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Kelsch	✓				
Rep. Johnson	✓				
Rep. Nelson	✓				
Rep. Haas	✓				
Rep. Hawken	✓				
Rep. Herbel	✓				
Rep. Meier	✓				
Rep. Norland	✓				
Rep. Sitte	✓				
Rep. Hanson		✓			
Rep. Hunsakor		✓			
Rep. Mueller		✓			
Rep. Solberg	✓	1			
Rep. Williams	✓				

Total (Yes) 11 No 3

Absent 0

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Operator's Signature

10/10/03
Date

Date: 1/28/03
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1444

House HOUSE EDUCATION

Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number

Reconsideration on
bill for more disc.

Action Taken

Motion Made By

Haas

Seconded By

Hanson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Kelsch	✓				
Rep. Johnson		✓			
Rep. Nelson	✓				
Rep. Haas	✓				
Rep. Hawken	✓				
Rep. Herbel	A				
Rep. Meier		✓			
Rep. Norland		✓			
Rep. Sitte	✓				
Rep. Hanson	✓				
Rep. Hunsakor	✓				
Rep. Mueller	A				
Rep. Solberg		✓			
Rep. Williams	✓				

Total (Yes) 8 No 4

Absent 2

Floor Assignment

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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La Costa Richard
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

30666.0201
Title.0300

Adopted by the Education Committee
January 28, 2003

VR
1/30/03

HOUSE) AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1444 HEDU 1-31-03

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 54-59-17 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the membership of the educational technology council.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 54-59-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. The educational technology council consists of:
 - a. The chief information officer.
 - b. The superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee.
 - c. The commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee.
 - d. A representative appointed by the state board for vocational and technical education.
 - e. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota association of technology leaders.
 - f. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota council of educational leaders.
 - g. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota school boards association.
 - h. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota association of special education directors.
 - i. ~~Two representatives of school districts, one of which~~ A school district representative who is appointed by the governor and who represents a school district that has an enrollment in kindergarten through grade twelve of fewer than four hundred, appointed by the governor.
 - j. A school district representative who is appointed by the governor, who is licensed to teach by the educational standards and practices board, and who is employed by a public school district in this state as a classroom teacher.
 - k. The director of technology for the department of public instruction.
 - ~~k.~~ l. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the state association of non public schools."

Renumber accordingly

Page No. 1

30666.0201

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Operator's Signature

Date

10/16/03

Date: 1/28/03
Roll Call Vote #: 43

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO.

House HOUSE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number Amendment

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Mueller Seconded By Solberg

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Kelsch					
Rep. Johnson					
Rep. Nelson					
Rep. Haas					
Rep. Hawken					
Rep. Herbel					
Rep. Meier					
Rep. Norland					
Rep. Sitte					
Rep. Hanson					
Rep. Hunsakor					
Rep. Mueller					
Rep. Solberg					
Rep. Williams					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Date: 1/28/03
Roll Call Vote #: 34

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1444

House HOUSE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number As Amended.

Action Taken Do Pass as Amended

Motion Made By Nelson Seconded By Mueller

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Kelsch	✓				
Rep. Johnson	✓				
Rep. Nelson	✓				
Rep. Haas	✓				
Rep. Hawken	✓				
Rep. Herbel	✓				
Rep. Meier	✓				
Rep. Norland	✓				
Rep. Sitte	✓				
Rep. Hanson	✓				
Rep. Hunsakor	✓				
Rep. Mueller	✓				
Rep. Solberg	✓				
Rep. Williams	✓				

Total (Yes) 14 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Solberg.

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Jo Costa Richardson
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 31, 2003 1:10 p.m.

Module No: HR-19-1458
Carrier: Solberg
Insert LC: 30666.0201 Title: .0300

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1444: Education Committee (Rep. R. Kelsch, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1444 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 2 of section 54-59-17 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the membership of the educational technology council.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 54-59-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. The educational technology council consists of:
 - a. The chief information officer.
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 - c. The commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee.
 - d. A representative appointed by the state board for vocational and technical education.
 - e. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota association of technology leaders.
 - f. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota council of educational leaders.
 - g. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota school boards association.
 - h. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the North Dakota association of special education directors.
 - i. ~~Two representatives of school districts, one of which~~ A school district representative who is appointed by the governor and who represents a school district that has an enrollment in kindergarten through grade twelve of fewer than four hundred, appointed by the governor.
 - j. A school district representative who is appointed by the governor, who is licensed to teach by the educational standards and practices board, and who is employed by a public school district in this state as a classroom teacher.
 - k. The director of technology for the department of public instruction.
 - ~~k.~~ l. A representative appointed by the governor from a list of three nominees submitted by the state association of non public schools."

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 31, 2003 1:10 p.m.

Module No: HR-19-1458
Carrier: Solberg
Insert LC: 30666.0201 Title: .0300

Renumber accordingly

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 2

HR-19-1458

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Yolanda Rickford
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10/6/03
Date

2003 SENATE EDUCATION

HB 1444

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10/6/03
Date

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. Engrossed HB 1444

Senate Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 3-12-03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		x	17.1 - 25.6, 52.0 - end
2	x		0 - .07
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Dandra Johnson</i>			

Minutes:CHAIRMAN FREBORG called the committee to order. Roll Call was taken with all (6) members present.

CHAIRMAN FREBORG opened the hearing on Engrossed HB 1444 which relates to the membership of the educational technology council.

Testimony in support of Eng. HB 1444:

REPRESENTATIVE KROEBER, Dist. 12, presented testimony. (see attached)

SENATOR COOK asked if a nonpublic school is considered a school district. He was told no by the committee.

SENATOR FLAKOLL asked if this bill considers a representative from a school with only K - 6 in subsection i.

REPRESENTATIVE KROEBER stated he feels that person would be considered under subsection j.

Salvatore Riccardi
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

Page 2

Senate Education Committee

Bill/Resolution Number Eng. HB 1444

Hearing Date 3-12-03

DON KOLLEN, Information Technology for ND, stated their support for this bill. He stated a classroom teacher does sit on the Board now, but by putting it in law, it will be mandatory.

GLORIA LOKKEN, NDEA, stated their support and the need for a classroom perspective on the board.

There was no opposition to Eng. HB 1444.

The hearing was closed on Eng. HB 1444.

CHAIRMAN FREBORG called the committee to order with all members present.

There was discussion on the proposed change that Representative Kroeber suggested. It was stated the committee had checked with Council and it would make no difference in the bill.

SENATOR COOK moved a DO PASS. Seconded by SENATOR CHRISTENSON.

Roll Call Vote: 6 YES. 0 NO. 0 Absent. Motion Carried.

Carrier: SENATOR CHRISTENSON

Date: 3/12/03
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. Eng HB1444

Senate EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Sen. Cook Seconded By Sen. Christenson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
LAYTON FREBORG, CHAIR.	✓		LINDA CHRISTENSON	✓	
GARY A. LEE, V. CHAIR.	✓		RYAN M. TAYLOR	✓	
DWIGHT COOK	✓				
TIM FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Christenson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 12, 2003 1:27 p.m.

Module No: SR-44-4571
Carrier: Christenson
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1444, as engrossed: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends
DO PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1444
was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-44-4571

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10/6/03
Date

2003 TESTIMONY

HB 1444

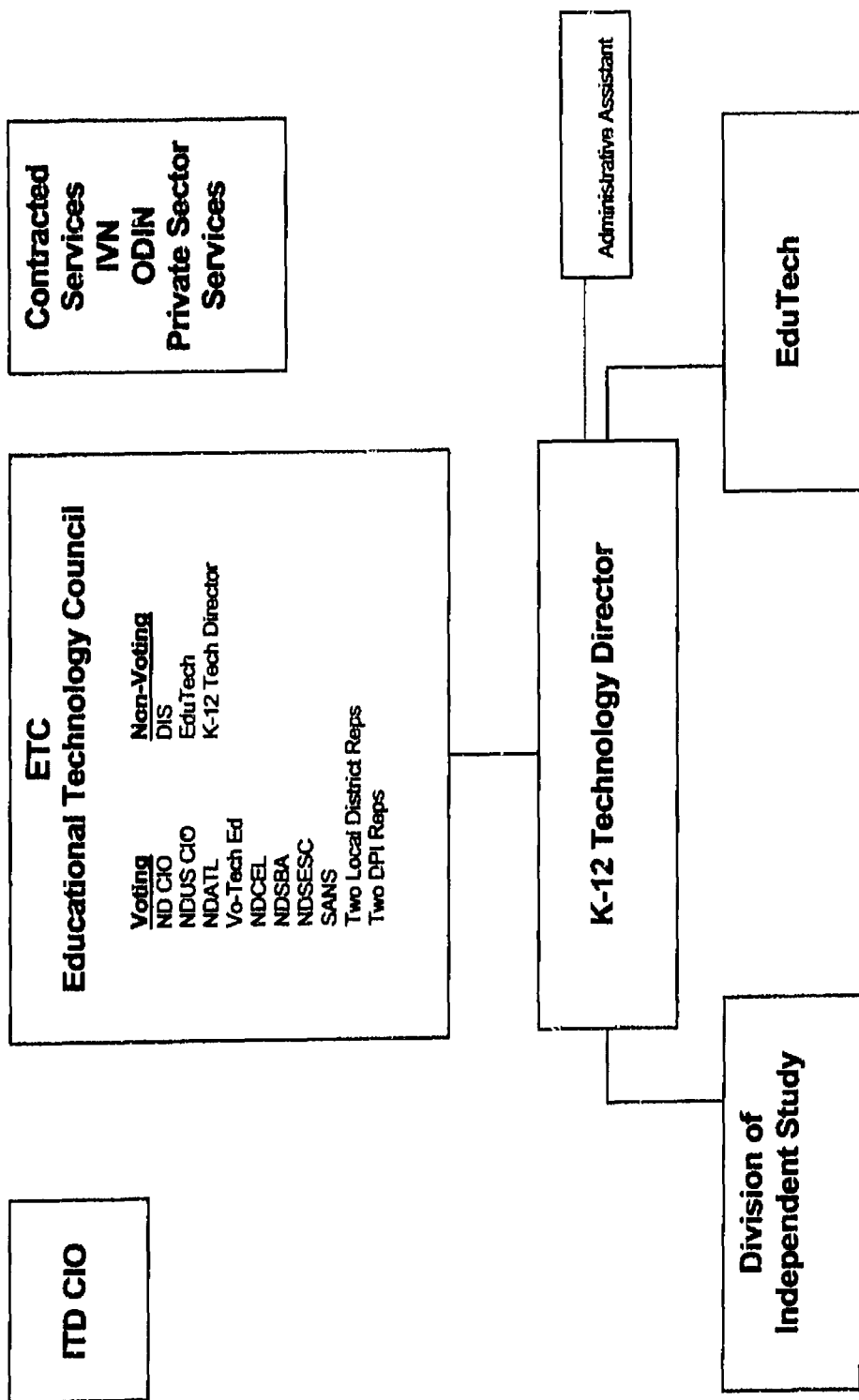
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10/6/03
Date

Madam Chair Kelsch and members of the House Education Committee. I'm Joe Kroeber, State Representative from District 12 which includes most of Jamestown. HB#1444 relates to the membership of the Educational Technology Council(ETC). The legal description of the ETC is that it is responsible for the coordination of educational technology for elementary and secondary education. I was surprised to learn that the ETC Council which has 12 voting members and 3 non voting members did not include a single mandatory classroom teacher. It is possible that one of the groups represented MAY include a classroom teacher but this may or may not be the case. My short amendment requires that Section 1 letter i. would require that the two representatives of school districts will be active classroom teachers. It does not increase the number of people on the board. It does not change how members are appointed. It still requires that one of these positions be from a smaller school. The only reason for this amendment is to assure the board will have 2 active classroom teachers which have contact with students daily and know first hand what today's students needs are in the area of technology. It is also important to know how this technology can fit into today's classrooms. It is my guess that if we were to have a technology board for farmers we would include at least one active farmer out of 12 members on that board.

I ask for you favorable consideration on this amendment and I would be happy to try and answer any questions the committee may have.



**State of North Dakota
K-12 Technology
Organizational Structure**

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Richard Costa
Operator's Signature

10/6/03
Date

Written testimony in Opposition of HB 1444
Lisa Feldner, Chairman
Educational Technology Council
January 27, 2003

I'm here to speak in opposition to HB1444. I serve as the Chairman of the Educational Technology Council or ETC. Please bear with me while I read two of the primary power and duties of the ETC from ND Century Code as it relates to our mission. The powers and duties are 1) to coordinate the use of technology and the development of technology systems to enhance educational opportunities for elementary and secondary education; and 2) to cooperate with state agencies and other organizations to develop statewide educational technology systems.

Prior to the 2001 legislative session, there was concern that the ETC was not meeting the needs of schools in the state. The Information Technology Committee, a legislative interim committee, asked a consultant to conduct a series of focus groups around the state to gain input. Based on the consultant's findings, the interim committee made two recommendations that were adopted by the 2001 legislature.

First, that the ETC be moved from the Department of Public Instruction to the ND Information Technology Department (ITD) in order to facilitate better coordination between all of the state technology initiatives. The ETC's budget and appropriation were also moved to ITD.

Second, that the ETC be reorganized to more closely reflect the stakeholders in North Dakota's educational community. At that time, there were only two educators appointed to the ETC: a superintendent and a teacher. There were no special education directors, even though special education is a field that relies heavily on assistive technologies. There were no technology coordinators even though they are responsible for the technologies employed in their schools. The ETC as it stands in Century Code today, is equivalent to the consultant's recommendation and is based on statewide input.

The ETC has 12 members, 7 of whom are educators appointed by governor. The Governor chooses the appointees from lists submitted by the represented organizations. These organizations are:

- ND Association of Technology Leaders,
- ND Council of Educational Leaders,
- ND School Boards Association,
- ND Special Education Directors,
- ND State Association of Non-public Schools,
- 2 School district representatives – 1 from a district under 400 students.

When this council was appointed in 2001, there were two teachers. Since that time, however, one of them has become a high school principal. Potentially there could be six teachers depending on the recommendations coming from the represented organizations. For example, of the 200+ members of the ND Association of Technology Leaders, 80% are teachers who also have technology duties in their schools. The Council of Educational Leaders, Special Education Directors, and Association of Non-public Schools all have members who are teachers that could potentially serve on the ETC.

Members of the ETC would like to point out that six of us are educators and are/or have been classroom teachers. We argue that teachers are well represented on this council. We do not feel it is necessary to mandate classroom teacher membership on the council. The council is functioning more effectively than ever before and we ask that it not be changed.

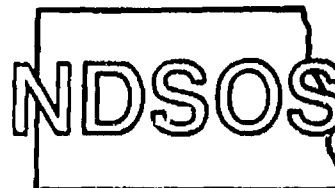
Jo Costa Richardson
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date

- * All sources of wealth should be included in the calculation for state foundation aid entitlements.

11. While recognizing the importance of the Americans with Disabilities Act, handicapped access requirements, fire and life safety codes and other state and federal mandates, schools should be given a reasonable time to comply with these provisions in areas that are not inordinately hazardous. School districts should be able to obtain loan funds from state construction fund and other sources on a long-term, low-interest rate basis to meet these costs.

12. NDSOS opposes legislation that establishes charter schools or voucher systems or tax credits for private schools.



North Dakota Small Organized Schools

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North Dakota Small Organized Schools

Legislative Program 2003

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Date

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

1. The reimbursement for increases in teacher salaries provided by the 2001 Legislative Assembly, which reimbursed school districts for teacher salary increases up to \$1,000 for the first year of the biennium and up to \$3,000 for the second, should be continued at no less than the same compensation level for the 2003 biennium.
2. Teacher salaries are a matter of paramount importance and it is the responsibility of each local school district to determine such salaries, in accordance with local conditions and needs, so as to attract and retain quality professional instructional personnel.
3. The association continues to believe that the changing of school district boundaries is a matter for local determination. Therefore, any legislation that permits a reorganization to be effective without a favorable vote of the patrons of the district or districts that are affected, will be opposed.
4. The association opposes school district boundary changes or school closings based solely on reasons of location, size or level of grade offerings. We continue to believe that school district reorganizations based on factors that clearly show educational advantages for pupils are appropriate.
5. The 90% cap on state transportation costs should be eliminated and districts should be reimbursed for 100% of cost. Reimbursement for busses with a capacity of transporting 10 or more students should be increased from 67 cents to 75 cents per mile for transporting students living outside the incorporated limits of a city. Transportation services for special and vocational education should continue to be funded.
6. All schools should have access to improved distance learning technology for instructional purposes and this program should continue to be funded. Especially, the state should continue funding for the state-wide network. School boards should have the authority to levy up to 5 mills to meet funding costs. In addition, school building fund tax moneys should be allowed to be used for the purchase and maintenance of educational technology equipment for student instruction.
7. The establishment of each school's calendar is a matter of local control. The legislative assembly should permit schools to have more flexibility to determine the length of a school day. Schools should also be given the authority to provide an additional two days of state-funded professional staff inservice training to meet the standards for highly-qualified teachers under the federal "No Child Left Behind" Act.
8. NDSOS supports legislation that funds special education in an adequate and equitable manner and at a level that enables school districts to meet the needs of special education students. The state should have a responsibility to fund at least 70% of the cost of special education.
9. It is recognized that mandated educational requirements issuing from the state are necessary for the comprehensive delivery of educational services. However, it is also believed that the state should fund at 100% any new mandate that it requires, and, if no funding is made available, then school districts should not be required to comply with the mandate. Interim committees of the North Dakota Legislative Council should continue to review current practices to determine which educational mandates are no longer current or necessary and should be deleted.
10. NDSOS supports legislation that would allow school boards to increase property taxes by a maximum of three percent each year after reaching the millage cap. The cap should not be less than the average statewide school district tax levy. State foundation aid should be founded on a broadbased, stable state supported system which insures basic education standards for all students no matter where they may live. These elements should be a part of any plan:
 - * 70% of the cost of education should be met by the state foundation aid program.
 - * There should be no increase in the millage deduct until the state reaches a level of funding that equals or exceeds 70% of the statewide average cost of education. The value of all local tax-abated real property should be included in the calculation for state foundation aid entitlements.

3-12-03

HB 1444

Chairman Freborg and members of the Senate Education Committee. I'm Joe Kroeber, State Representative from District 12 which includes most of Jamestown. HB#1444 relates to the membership of the Educational Technology Council(ETC). The legal description of the ETC is that it is responsible for the coordination of educational technology for elementary and secondary education. When we had the hearing for this bill in our appropriations subcommittee, I was surprised to learn that the ETC Council which has 12 voting members and 3 non voting members did not include a single mandatory classroom teacher. It is possible that one of the groups represented MAY include a classroom teacher but this may or may not be the case. This bill as amended by the House requires that one of the two representatives of school districts will be an active classroom teacher. It does not increase the number of people on the board. It does not change how members are appointed. The only reason for this bill is to require the board to have an active classroom teacher which will have contact with students daily and know first hand what today's students needs are in the area of technology. It is also important to know how this technology can fit into today's classrooms. It is my guess that if we were to have a 12 member technology board for legislators we would include at least one active legislator out of 12 appointed members on that board.

I ask for your favorable consideration on this bill and I would be happy to try and answer any questions the committee may have.

Joe Kroeber
Operator's Signature

10/16/03
Date