

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

3007

2005 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HCR 3007

2005 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3007

House Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 21, 2005

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0.1 to
2	x		0.5 to 3.1
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Lauren B. Fink</i>			

Minutes: **Rep. Devlin, Chairman** opened the hearing on HCR 3007, A concurrent resolution declaring Monday, February 14, 2005, "North Dakota Close-Day".

**Rep. Weiler** representing District 30 was the prime sponsor on HCR 3007. Rep. Weiler asked for favorable support for this resolution and the fine work which is being accomplished with students in fostering a knowledge and hopefully an interest in participating in government. His main purpose for appearing was to introduce Rick Heidt, coordinator of the North Dakota Close-Up program.

**Rick Heidt** : A copy of his prepared testimony is attached.

**Rep. Herbel, Vice Chairman** ( 2.7 ) Would just quickly tell us how the kids are selected?

**Rick Heidt** : It is a different process in just about every school -- sometimes they have contests where they write an essay, at other times they just select students, at other times name students who want to, --- one of the problems we have had this year is with the overlap of girls and boys athletics --- and all the time that is taken. You know that you can't compete with class B in North

Dakota. So our enrollments are down a little bit. By the same token Mid-Dakota is sending twelve students. We normally limit to 2 students for schools that have enrollment of less than 300 students; and, 3 students for those with more than 300 students. I have never turned a student away -- we have always found room. The funding can come from fund raising. It can come from the local school district. We don't fund any of that. We charge an enrollment fee to the schools so that we can put the program on. Each year each school pays an \$50 enrollment fee.

**Rep. Kretschmar** How many schools participate in this ?

**Rick Heidt:** forty schools this year -- last year we had 45 schools and we were down about 7 but when we started we were at 55 -- sports has really cut into the participation.

**Dr. Doug Johnson** representing the North Dakota Council of Educators appeared to praise and support the program. Dr. Johnson thanked the legislature for its support of the program.

**Rep.Devlin, Chairman** ( 6.0 ) recessed the hearing in the event that some of the committee who were attending the Evan Lips funeral might want to add to the testimony or to have more information brought before the committee -- the record would be open in that event.

**Tape 2 side A ( 2.0 ) Rep. N. Johnson** moved a 'Do Pass motion and to place HCR 3007 on the consent calendar'. **Rep. Maragos** seconded the motion. On a roll call vote the motion carried  
**12 yeas 0 Nays 0 absent.** **Rep. N. Johnson** was designated to carry HCR 3007 on the floor. **Rep.Devlin, Chairman** entered into the record an E-mail from Sen. O'Connell his support for Rep. Herbal, Vice Chairman bill. Rep. Herbal, Vice Chairman was in Washington for the inaugural. **End of record ( 3.1 )**

Date: January 21, 2005  
Roll Call Vote:

2005 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3007

House POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken

Do Pass (on Consent Calendar)

Motion Made By

Rep. Johnson

Seconded By

Rep. Maragos

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. Devlin, Chairman	✓		Rep. Ekstrom	✓	
Rep. Herbel, Vice Chairman	✓		Rep. Kaldor	✓	
Rep. Dietrich	✓		Rep. Zaiser	✓	
Rep. Johnson	✓				
Rep. Koppelman	✓				
Rep. Kretschmar	✓				
Rep. Maragos	✓				
Rep. Pietsch	✓				
Rep. Wrangham	✓				

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment

Rep. Johnson

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

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
January 21, 2005 11:50 a.m.

**Module No: HR-14-0842**  
**Carrier: N. Johnson**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3007: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Devlin, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3007 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.**

2005 SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

HCR 3007

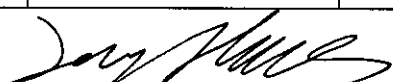
2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3007

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 17, 2005

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		1,465-3269
1		X	2000-2200
Committee Clerk Signature 			

Minutes:

**Chairman Cook opened the hearing on HCR 3007. All Senators were present.**

**Representative Dave Weiler** introduced the resolution. The resolution designates February 14 to be Close-Up Day.

**Doug Johnson, representing the Council of Education Leaders** appeared in support of the resolution. The Council of Education leaders took over the close-up program 5 years ago. The program is very insightful to see how high school youth and legislators interact.

**Senator Triplett-** Why are we doing this resolution after the relevant date has already passed?

**Doug-** Its just a matter of process, we were at the House committee a week before the program took place. Perhaps we could insert the emergency clause to this resolution.

**Senator Hacker-** Would it be ok to remove "2005" from the resolution?

**Doug-** We could possibly just designate the second Monday or third Monday of February.

**Rick Heidt, Coordinator for the Close-up program** appeared before the committee.



**Senator Hacker-** I'm curious to know why a re-occurring date may be needed in every session?

**Rick-** We didn't do this last year for the House and the Senate side. We want a date that works the best for the kids. The number of close-up participants have been diminished due to Class B district basketball tournaments taking place around that time. You can't compete with Class B in ND, we have a lot of Class B schools that participate in the program.

**Senator Triplett-** Who did you work through this year to make February 14 work?

**Rick-** We worked with Representative Weiler and the Capitol Facilities Committee.

**Senator Triplett-** Perhaps the legislature should authorize the facilities committee to designate close up day in February.

**Senator Dever-** This should have been given fast track consideration. Maybe we should adjust the resolution to congratulate the students on their participation in the program.

**Rick Heidt** distributed written testimony. See attached.

**Senator David O'Connell** appeared before the committee in support of the legislation.

Governor Sinner appointed him to the close-up committee in 1985, and has been involved with every close-up since then. Its a great program to show kids how their government works.

**Chairman Cook-** This resolution is just official recognition, correct?

**Senator O'Connell-** Yes.

**Senator Hacker** proposed an idea to the committee about an official close-up day in ND, whether or not the kids are at the legislative session, on that particular day.

**Chairman Cook closed the hearing on HCR 3007.**

**Action taken:**

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Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number HCR 3007

Hearing Date March 17, 2005

**Senator Hacker moved a Do Pass recommendation for HCR 3007. Seconded by Senator**

**Fairfield. The resolution passed unanimously, 6-0-0. Senator Gary Lee will be the carrier**

**of the bill.**

Date: 3-17-05  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3007

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Hacker Seconded By Fairfield

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dwight Cook, Chairman	X				
Senator Nicholas P. Hacker, VC	X				
Senator Dick Dever	X				
Senator Gary A. Lee	X				
Senator April Fairfield	X				
Senator Constance Triplett	X				

Total Yes 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment G. Lee

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

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
March 17, 2005 2:08 p.m.

**Module No: SR-49-5288**  
**Carrier: G. Lee**  
**Insert LC: . Title: .**

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3007: Political Subdivisions Committee (Sen. Cook, Chairman) recommends DO PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3007 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.**

2005 TESTIMONY

HCR 3007

## TESTIMONY FOR HCR 3007

Testifier Chairman and members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee:

My name is Rick Heidt, coordinator of the North Dakota Close Up Program. I would like to share some information about the Close Up program with you.

The North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders, in conjunction with the Tesoro Refinery the National Close Up Foundation, will sponsor North Dakota Close Up for its <sup>17th</sup> ~~sixteenth~~ program year. Approximately 140 high school students and 40 teachers from around the state will arrive in Bismarck on Sunday, February 13 to participate in the 2 day event being held at the State Capitol and the Doublewood Inn.

The purpose of the Close Up program, as this resolution states, is to ignite an interest in the democratic process and to instill young people with the desire to become active participants in government. Close Up North Dakota concentrates on the functions and structure of state government and defines the constitutional responsibilities assigned to each of the three branches of government. The media and special interest groups, both major influences affecting government policy, are also examined. For democracy to succeed, it is vital for citizens to take an active interest in their government. One way to develop this relationship is by participating in Close Up programs. In 1972 the Close Up Foundation – the nation's largest civic education organization – began to sponsor such programs across the country and around the world, and has involved students, teachers, community leaders, and other adults. Close Up programs provide students and other participants with opportunities for citizenship education and direct involvement in the democratic process.

An impressive roster of speakers is scheduled to assist students to simulate the legislative process. Issues surrounding youth and their interest in North Dakota as a workplace and home are the basis for bills that will be proposed to a mock legislative hearing committee on the final day of the program. A "Meet Your Legislators" hour is planned for Sunday, February 13 at 8:00 PM at the Doublewood Inn; students will have a chance to meet and discuss these issues with their legislators.

Thank you very much for your involvement and concern in this resolution.

**1/21/05**

**Political Subdivisions**

**9:00 am**

**Prairie Room**

**Senator O'Connell is in Washington, DC, attending Inaugural events and will not be able to attend the hearing today on HCR 3007 . He is in support of the bill.**

## **TESTIMONY FOR HCR 3007**

**Mister Chairman and members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee:**

**My name is Rick Heidt, coordinator of the North Dakota Close Up Program. I would like to share some information about the Close Up program with you.**

**The North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders, in conjunction with the Tesoro Refinery the National Close Up Foundation, sponsored North Dakota Close Up for its seventeenth program year. Approximately 123 high school students and 35 teachers from around the state were in Bismarck on Sunday, February 13 to participate in the 2 day event held at the State Capitol and the Doublewood Inn.**

**The purpose of the Close Up program, as this resolution states, is to ignite an interest in the democratic process and to instill young people with the desire to become active participants in government. Close Up North Dakota concentrates on the functions and structure of state government and defines the constitutional responsibilities assigned to each of the three branches of government. The media and special interest groups, both major influences affecting government policy, are also examined.**

**For democracy to succeed, it is vital for citizens to take an active interest in their government. One way to develop this relationship is by participating in Close Up programs. In 1972 the Close Up Foundation -- the nation's largest civic education organization -- began to sponsor such programs across the country and around the world, and has involved students, teachers, community leaders, and other adults. Close Up programs provide students and other participants with opportunities for citizenship education and direct involvement in the democratic process.**

**An impressive roster of speakers were scheduled to assist students to simulate the legislative process. Issues surrounding youth and their interest in North Dakota as a workplace and home were the basis for bills that were to be proposed to a mock legislative hearing committee on the final day of the program. A "Meet Your Legislators" hour took place Sunday, February 13 at 8:00 PM at the Doublewood Inn; students had a chance to meet and discuss these issues with their legislators. I have brought some feedback from students and teachers.**

**Thank you very much for your involvement and concern in this resolution.**



7. Do you feel that you, as an individual, can make a difference in government?

Yes - 18

No - 2

- I think a well-informed teenager can make the greatest impact, because after all, aren't most bills passed for the good of the future North Dakota, in other words, us?
- I feel that I can make a difference as an educated person.
- The ND government especially is close to the people.
- Anyone can make a difference, it just takes the dedication and determination to do it.
- North Dakota is very open legislation and any citizen is able to make a difference.
- If I apply myself and I know I can make a difference.
- After speaking with several ND legislators I have realized how much the youth's opinion is appreciated.
- Yea, if I took steps to do so - talking to legislators about how I feel in order to have an impact on an issue, bill, etc.
- I can by voting for the people I think should be in office. I also can write to our reps. to try and make changes that I feel should be done.
- Every voice matters and all it takes to make a difference is one voice.
- I now feel I can come to the legislature whenever I want and testify for a bill I feel strongly for and against.
- I'll pay more attention to what is going on in our state.

8. Will this experience encourage you to become involved in other government activities at the state, local or national level?

Yes - 19

No - 1

- It already has! I can't wait to get more involved.
- I feel more informed.
- Probably at my high school back home.
- I think I will go to the legislature more often, that will hopefully get me even more involved.
- I already have been involved, but it made me more excited.

### ***Teachers:*** [23 of 35 teachers responded]

- This was my first year and I was very well satisfied. It was a great learning experience!
- Thanks, another very successful year. The students really enjoyed the program.
- Good program. Great opportunity for my students! Keep up the great work!
- This was my first year attending ND Close Up and now am anxious for next year.
- I feel the program is great. You get out of it what you put in!! My students and myself had a great educational experience.
- Thanks, great job!!

23. Using your own judgment and the feed back you received from participants and your steering committee members, assess your program. You may add comments on an additional page.  
Circle 1 for the lowest ranking response and 5 for the highest.

[23 of 35 teachers responded]

How appropriate was the program subject matter?

1      2      3      4 (4.57)      5

Did the participants leave the program with a strong understanding of the subject?

1      2      3      4 (4.74)      5

How effective were the speakers?

1      2      3      4(4.52)      5

How would you rate the site

1      2      3(3.54)      4      5

Did participants have the opportunity to interact and make new friends?

1      2      3      4 (4.47)      5

How would you rate the overall program experience?

1      2      3      4(4.7) 5

How would you rate the support other than financial you received from Close Up?

1      2      3      4      5(5)

### Teacher/students comments:

#### Students – (21 students responding)

4. Did the program meet your expectations? Please explain.

- I wanted to come here to learn how the legislature works a little better and it has fulfilled that.
- It was very fun to get involved in our legislature and see first hand how it runs. I also really enjoyed the speakers.
- I enjoyed meeting and talking with lawmakers.

5. Would you recommend the North Dakota Close Up Program to others? If not, why not?

Yes - 20      No - 0

- It was very educational and somewhat fun.
- It helps you understand government.
- If you are interested in government, it answers a lot of questions.
- I learned a lot. (2)
- I would because we all need to know about our government
- It's a great learning experience.