

**2015 HOUSE EDUCATION**

**HCR 3045**

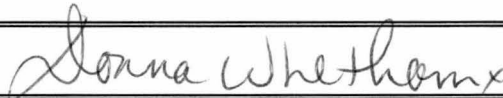
# 2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HCR 3045  
3/10/2015  
24546

☐ Subcommittee  
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Directing the Legislative Management to study the automation of State Library data to track items owned, orders made, bills paid, patrons who have borrowed, and options for transferring materials between libraries.

Attachment # 1-2.

## Minutes:

**Chairman Nathe:** opened the hearing on HCR 3045.

**Representative Ben Hanson: District 16.** Introduced HCR 3045. This resolution came from discussing with the librarian back home where they are concerned about not having a uniform rural library system. He was concerned he would not be able to catalog and keep track of everything that we had and that there are systems out there that provide the kind of automation that will allow us to make sure we preserve all our resources. Hopefully it does have too much of a cost. I looked into it and I discussed this with DPI and the State Library. They are here to testify and have a lot more detail. I thought it was worth bringing forward how we can keep all our libraries on the same page and modernize. (1:00-1:59)

**Mary Soucie:** North Dakota State Librarian, in support of HCR 3045. (2:00-5:32) (See Attachment #1). Included is support from others.

**Rep Rohr:** Do you have a model or a picture that would demonstrate the main libraries in the state and the number of the smaller of libraries? It seems you should have some data already that would indicate how many are not automated. What are the numbers we are talking about here?

**Mary Soucie:** The state library catalogs for about 67 of our small school and public libraries. We have 86 public libraries total. I do not have not the numbers that are not automated but I can get you that information.

**Rep Rohr:** Other than independent libraries you are also including every school district that has a library within their school?

**Mary Soucie:** We would like to include the schools, but if the committee desires we will just look at the publics.

**Rep Rohr:** Yes, I would like the data for the entire committee.

**Rep Rohr:** Other than the independent library I would like the data.

**Christine Kujawa: Director of Bismarck public library:** in support of HCR 3045. Regarding the study of the automation and future cooperative efforts of North Dakota libraries as endorsed by Representative Hanson. I can speak to the benefit of shared library system software resources and the resulting shared cost benefit. Benefits belonging to a cooperative include: 1. Patrons have more access to more resources with a quicker turn-around time, this results in increased opportunities for life-long learning and personal enrichment. 2. Aggregate demand and group purchasing of software results in more leverage for price negotiation in the product. 3. It provides an arrangement for sharing collections and cooperative acquisitions and there are shared opportunities in professional development and networking. It would provide patrons a more efficient way to access resources. I think it would be worthwhile to invest in a cost benefit analysis of potential cooperative agreements for libraries throughout the state.

**Rep Schreiber Beck:** Are there any usage figures out there?

**Christine Kujawa:** I have some statistics specifically relating to our consortium and I am here to give you an example. For instance for Bismarck Public Library we have around 240,000 items but when we work cooperatively we have access to 555,000 items. It greatly increases the number of resources that we have available for our patrons. We can easily go online and request things also. We use a courier system instead of standard mail which is a huge savings. A patron could request an item from Hazen in within a few days with our courier system it would arrive at our library and they would get it at no charge to them. We have close to 48,000 cardholders throughout the whole system we have 72, 000 cardholders. So we are able to work with a larger number of citizens. Budget wise we pay half what we would if we were just on our own. There are great benefits to working together and sharing our resources.

**Rep Rohr:** Why would we need a resolution to accomplish what we are asking for here?

**Christine Kujawa:** I don't know if I am the best person to answer that. I can say up to this point there hasn't been any cooperative efforts other than our consortium. There is a very small one in Minot and the rest of the group belongs to Oden which is mainly academic it doesn't serve public libraries very well.

**Rep Rohr:** About the academic library, this would not include the libraries at UND or BSC, it is just for the school district K-12 and the state library system?

**Christine Kujawa:** I would refer that to State Librarian Soucie.

**Rep Zubke:** Do you purchase all your books hard copy or do you purchase some electronically?

**Christine Kujawa:** The majority is hard cover we do order some digitally the patrons by far prefer print books.

**Rep Kelsh:** How expensive the courier system, if I found a book in Grand Forks would they somehow get it to that area and how would they do that?

**Christine Kujawa:** Speaking for our consortium alone we do span 5 counties so we have Turtle Lake school system in our consortium. Every library that is within our system is a stop in our courier system. We work through presort and they travel all around and it works out well. Cost savings related in 2007 I had figured out we saved for \$3700 dollars per year just for our system. I can't imagine what it would be if it would be more extensive.

**Rep Rohr:** Why you would need a resolution to accomplish this type of a network system and if the resolution would pass how much money are you expecting the state to put into this?

**Mary Soucie:** The reason we need a study is while we do have number of our libraries in our network, we have a lot that are not. We offer a grant every year that will get them cataloged and get them into OCLC but they don't have the money to continue. We need to know what those barriers are and we have not done a comprehensive study before of the libraries that are not connected to find out what it would take to connect them so that is why we are asking for the study?

**Rep Rohr:** Is there a reason you can't implement that now?

**Mary Soucie:** I think it is a matter of manpower and getting everyone to the table and having additional help from legislative council to do the study and do some of the background. I would like to address Rep Kelsh question on how books get to him. Right now if you found a book in Grand Forks it would be mailed through Grand Forks, your library would contact the State library and we would contact Grand Forks and then it would be mailed directly to the library. Some of our larger libraries contact directly. So that is how it happens right now.

**Kirsten Baesler:** Superintendent of Department of Public Institution. Unable to be present. Written testimony in support of HCR 3045. (See Attachment #2).

**Chairman Nathe:** Any other support of HCR 3045? Any opposition to HCR 3045? Seeing none. Closed the hearing on HCR 3045.

**Rep Kelsh:** Moved Do Pass on HCR 3045.

**Rep Mock:** Seconded.

**Rep Zubke:** We have passed a lot of these studies, how much do each of them cost? Is there a general number?

**Chairman Nathe:** The studies are done in the interim committees so legislative management will pick some of these studies and assign them to the committee. Legislative management has some money set aside if they have to bring in a speaker. It is a matter of bringing some experts such as Mary. Some do cost money and others don't. It depends what the issue is.

**Rep. Olson:** Would this be optional? This is directing to study so would that not be a mandate?

**Chairman Nathe:** No it wouldn't be mandated, I think legislative management picks it.

**Rep Kelsh:** In a resolution you can put the strongest language in there and it is not mandated, in a bill it is supposed to be mandated.

**Rep Rohr:** I resist the motion. I definitely support libraries but I don't think they have explored the option of doing this on their own. They do have grants they could use to accomplish the same task.

**A Roll Call Vote was taken. Yes: 10 No: 2 Absent: 1.**

**Motion carried.**

**Rep Kelsh: will carry the bill.**

Date: 3-10-15  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES <sup>HCR</sup>  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3045

House Education Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation: ☐ Adopt Amendment  
☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation  
☐ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations  
☒ Place on Consent Calendar  
Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Rep. Kelsh Seconded By Rep. Mock

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Nathe	✓		Rep. Hunsakor	✓	
Vice Chairman Schatz	✓		Rep. Kelsh	✓	
Rep. Dennis Johnson	✓		Rep. Mock	✓	
Rep. B. Koppelman	A				
Rep. Looyesen	✓				
Rep. Meier	✓				
Rep. Olson		✓			
Rep. Rohr		✓			
Rep. Schreiber Beck	✓				
Rep. Zubke	✓				

Total (Yes) 10 No 2

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. Kelsh

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

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3045: Education Committee (Rep. Nathe, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (10 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).** HCR 3045 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.

**2015 SENATE EDUCATION**

**HCR 3045**



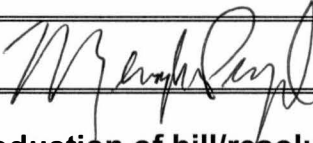
# 2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Missouri River Room, State Capitol

HCR 3045  
3/23/2015  
Job # 25259 (15:48)

☐ Subcommittee  
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



**Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:**

## INITIAL HEARING AND ACTION

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to study the automation of State Library data to track items owned, orders made, bills paid, patrons who have borrowed, and options for transferring materials between libraries.

**Minutes:**

3 Attachments

**Chairman Flakoll** called the committee to order at 11:00am with Vice Chairman Rust excused for the day.

**Ben Hanson**, District 16 Representative

**Representative Hanson:** There is concern that we may be losing some information and may not be utilizing our rural libraries to the best of their abilities given all of the different local systems they have. However it is uncertain what this would look like or what appropriation would be appropriate so a study is needed.

**Chairman Flakoll:** Was there any consternation on the House side that if we obtain all of this information, it might be available to nefarious people?

**Representative Hanson:** No one from district 46 was on the Education Committee. You can rest assured that Representative Hawken's fears were not taken up during that committee time.

(3:15) **Mary Soucie**, State Librarian of North Dakota (*see attachment #1*)

**Chairman Flakoll:** Do you know how many volumes are shared by any one of these entities in a given year?

**Soucie:** Last year we did about 25,000.

**Chairman Flakoll:** Tri-college is 70,000 plus.

**Soucie:** That is just the materials that the State Library helps manage. Some of our libraries get materials directly from one to the other. Their consortia do their own delivery method.

**Chairman Flakoll:** Do you contract with someone to deliver those?

**Soucie:** Most likely, that is what would happen. We don't know if it is feasible from an economic standpoint which is why we included it in the study.

(7:25) **Christine Kujawa**, President of the Central Dakota Library Network  
(see attachment #2)

**Chairman Flakoll:** Is this collaboration part of what is currently occurring or what is going to be looked into?

**Kujawa:** I think I was asked to testify today to show what could potentially happen in this state. We constantly share our resources and work with presort as a courier system rather than standard mail which save us a lot of money. Because we have shared software, it is very easy for our patrons to request items on their own. We may not have a particular book but the Hazen Library does so either they can go into our catalogue and request it on their own or we can request it on their behalf. Within a couple of days through the presort system, it gets sent to us and checked out by the patron. Materials move quickly and we have access to a lot more titles.

**Chairman Flakoll:** With tri-colleges we average about 32 cents per volume move, but we are in a different market in which people are relatively close within 10 miles of each other. Is part of this attempting to share electronic assets as well?

**Kujawa:** We do some of that already. There is a group that we are a part of in the state called "Library to Go". One of the databases that we pool our resources together for is called "Overdrive" and it is for electronic audio books. Any patron who is a member library of the consortium that takes part of that has access to all of those materials.

**Chairman Flakoll** closed the hearing.

**Senator Davison** motions for a DO PASS to HCR 3045.

**Senator Schaible** seconds the motion.

**A vote was taken: 5 yays, 0 nays, 1 absent**  
**The motion carries 5-0-1.**

**Senator Davison** will carry the bill.

Testimony in support handed in separate from hearing from **Kirsten Baesler**, Superintendent of Public Instruction (see attachment #3)

**2015 SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3045**

Senate Education Committee

☐ Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation: ☐ Adopt Amendment  
☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Without Committee Recommendation  
☐ As Amended ☐ Rerefer to Appropriations  
☐ Place on Consent Calendar  
Other Actions: ☐ Reconsider ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Senator Davison Seconded By Senator Schaible

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Flakoll	X		Senator Marcellais	X	
Vice Chairman Rust	AB		Senator Oban	X	
Senator Davison	X				
Senator Schaible	X				

Total (Yes) 5 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Senator Davison

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

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3045: Education Committee (Sen. Flakoll, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS**  
(5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3045 was placed on the  
Fourteenth order on the calendar.

**2015 TESTIMONY**

**HCR 3045**

#1  
HCR 3045  
3/10/15

**TESTIMONY ON HCR 3045  
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
By: Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian  
701-328-2492  
North Dakota State Library**

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Dear Chairman Nathe and members of the House Education Committee,

For the record, my name is Mary Soucie and I am the State Librarian of North Dakota. I am testifying today on behalf of Concurrent Resolution 3045. The Online Dakota Information Network, or ODIN, is our statewide network that connects libraries for the purposes of sharing resources. ODIN is a wonderful resource and many of our academic, public, and school libraries have been able to take advantage of becoming a member of ODIN. In addition, we have two independent consortia, Central Dakota Library Network (CDLN) and the North Central Library Authority. Many of our small public and school libraries function as stand-alone libraries, meaning they do not belong to a consortium of any kind, which makes it more difficult to participate in resource sharing. There are also some North Dakota libraries that are not automated at all, still using manual checkout methods. One of the greatest benefits to automating is providing

better service to library patrons through the means of an online catalog so that patrons can search the collection and place holds on library items from home. We would like to explore what are the barriers for libraries that haven't automated and for libraries that haven't joined a consortium. Citizens statewide benefit when libraries are better able to share their materials. Utilizing technology makes this process much easier and quicker for library patrons.

Libraries in North Dakota have a long, rich history of participating in resource sharing. For the members of ODIN, resource sharing is accomplished easily through a shared catalog and software. We are able to access the collections of other libraries in the state through OCLC which is a national shared catalog, and which is the basis for ODIN's catalog. The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC) has given grants through Library Vision to many libraries to join OCLC and/or ODIN. The NDLCC will continue to support resource sharing in this manner.

In addition to looking at the barriers to automating, the study will explore what automation systems are currently being used by the stand-alone libraries in North Dakota as well as explore what opportunities there are to connect to those libraries, whether through

ODIN or through another platform. We are also asking that the study look at the opportunities to implement a delivery system to transfer library materials from one library to the other. While North Dakota libraries are committed to resource sharing, the rising cost of postage is making it much harder for all libraries to participate, especially our small and rural libraries. We hope to be able to explore the opportunities for either a statewide or regional delivery system that will remove the cost barriers to resource sharing. If a system such as this is implemented, it will benefit residents all across the state.

I thank you for your time today. Letters of support from other agencies and libraries are attached to my testimony. I ask you for a "do pass" recommendation. I will answer any questions that members of the committee may have.



**Soucie, Mary J.**

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**From:** Bottineau County Public Library [bottineaulibrary@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2015 10:38 AM  
**To:** Soucie, Mary J.  
**Subject:** Library Study Testimony

Dear Legislative Management;

I support the study of the automation of the State Library as proposed by Rep. Ben Hanson. We rely heavily upon the State Library and the option of Inter-Library loans to keep up with the ever changing demands of our patrons. With more people and a more diverse population coming into the community and county, we are often unable to fulfill their requests, as they are looking for materials that our budget and/or space doesn't always permit. With the help of the State Library and other libraries around the state, we are able to meet their needs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Reitan

Bottineau County Public Library

Bottineau, North Dakota

**Soucie, Mary J.**

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**From:** Stukel, Tony J.  
**Sent:** Friday, February 20, 2015 4:53 PM  
**To:** Soucie, Mary J.  
**Subject:** Support for resolution to study automation in libraries

Members of the Committee

My name is Tony Stukel and I am the director of the Online Dakota Information Network, ODIN. I am writing to support the concurrent resolution to study automation in libraries throughout North Dakota. ODIN wishes to be a partner in the study of the current state of automation in libraries, the barriers to automating, and the opportunities for the future.

I ask the committee for a do pass recommendation.

**Tony Stukel**

Director, ODIN

NORTH DAKOTA  
University System

**Core Technology Services**

4349 James Ray Drive  
Grand Forks, ND 58202  
Phone 701.777.4777  
[www.odin.nodak.edu](http://www.odin.nodak.edu)

**Soucie, Mary J.**

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**From:** Mary Lorenz [Mary.Lorenz@gflibrary.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2015 12:21 PM  
**To:** Soucie, Mary J.  
**Subject:** re: Action Alert

The North Dakota State Library handles all our interlibrary loans that are from outside the Minitex area. This is an invaluable tool for us so that we can fill our patrons' requests. It's even more important to our small and rural North Dakota libraries that have limited budgets and staff. Please study the automation of the North Dakota State Library and vote favorable for an updated automation system. Thank you.

Mary Lorenz  
Reference Librarian  
Grand Forks Public Library

23 February 2015

To the honorable legislators of North Dakota:

I write in support Representative Ben Hanson's resolution to conduct a study of the automation of North Dakota's libraries. Libraries offer important services to their communities:

- 1) They support early childhood learning, particularly the acquisition of literacy.
- 2) They offer access to a broad range of materials – not just books, but online databases full of articles which are not available for free.
- 3) They offer access to computing facilities. In an age when job advertisements and applications are rapidly shifting to the online environment, this is particularly useful to job seekers who lack the funds to maintain a private Internet connection.


The legislature needs accurate, up-to-date information about how well the current system works in order to make sensible decisions about how to manage it going forward. Please vote in support of Representative Hanson's resolution.

Please note that while I am employed as a librarian by the University of North Dakota, I write as a private citizen, on my own time. The opinions expressed here are mine, and do not necessarily reflect those of my employer.

Thank you.

Will Martin

Grand Forks, ND



I am writing in support of the study proposed by Representative Ben Hanson. This study comes at a very important time for libraries in our state. North Dakota's population is ever-changing and growing while libraries adapt in ways to reach all citizens. In rural areas, you must find ways to reach all patrons such as a bookmobile like the Ward County Public Library has or multiple branches (we have one in Minot and one in Kenmare). Multiple patrons have said to me in the past year that they don't know what they would do without our bookmobile or our two branches. They rely on us to help them obtain the information that they seek. The bookmobile is also a service that the library depends on to help move materials that have been requested between the two branches. Our two branches are 52 miles apart, so currently patrons may have to wait a week or more to get books that they have requested. The bookmobile travels between the two branches at the end of each month when we go to the schools in Kenmare and a board member kindly volunteered to bring and take books between the branches when she comes to the board meetings in the second week of the month. Even our wonderful inter-library loan service can be taxing on budgets as the cost of postage continues to rise. This study would give a comprehensive look at library services around North Dakota from the biggest libraries to the smallest volunteer-run libraries to those in the middle. Libraries serve people around the state to increase the value of North Dakotan's daily lives and to play an important role in the healthiness of a community. To continue to do this things requires everyone to look at what is succeeding and where we need to continue to grow.



Kerri Tyler

Ward County Public Library Administrator

Minot, ND

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 3045**

**Testimony of Charlene Weis, President**

**Central Dakota Library Network**

**February 24, 2015**

Central Dakota Library Network (CDLN) is encouraging support from the North Dakota Legislature for the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution No. 3045 that would direct the Legislative Management to study the State Library automation system and other library issues in the state of North Dakota. There is a long history of studying library issues by the North Dakota Legislature. Regional Library Cooperatives were established in North Dakota Century Code by previous legislative sessions. As you know technology is always changing and the state of libraries change as well so it is time to readdress important library issues.

CDLN would be happy to help assist with this valuable library study by being a successful example of its choice of automation and also library collaboration. At present CDLN is a consortium of twenty rural and urban libraries in central North Dakota. It has had twenty plus years of cooperation and sharing using library automation software to keep track of items owned and borrowed to patrons. CDLN efficiently uses a courier system to move its items from library to library.

Libraries offer great service to the citizens of North Dakota.

Thank you for your consideration of House Concurrent Resolution No. 3045.



## TESTIMONY REGARDING LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY

February 23, 2015

Timothy S. Dirks, MLIS, MPA  
Director  
Fargo Public Library

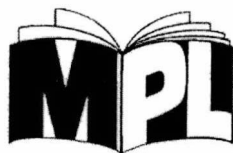
To Whom It May Concern:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of the concurrent resolution proposed by Representative Ben Hanson requesting Legislative Management study library automation and resource sharing services in the state.

In this current environment technologies exist that would empower even the smallest library in our state to have access to databases and resources of vital importance to our rural citizens. While automation and resource sharing have long become standard for libraries in other states, it currently is highly uneven in North Dakota. A study would go a long way to ensure that the citizens both rural and urban in North Dakota have access to a high level of library services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "T. Dirks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning and a large, looping "D" for the last name.



## MINOT PUBLIC LIBRARY

516 SECOND AVE. SW - MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA 58701-3792 - PHONE 701-852-1045 - FAX 701-852-2595  
WWW.MINOTLIBRARY.ORG

February 23, 2015

Honorable Members of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly,

I urge you to support the Resolution put forth by Representative Ben Hanson, authorizing a legislative study of North Dakota's libraries. Libraries are of extreme value to our communities due to our current cultural and economic settings. The services we provide are immense in both their variety and importance, yet it can be difficult to demonstrate this value to lawmakers in order to receive the necessary support to continue meeting the needs of our citizens. The Resolution put forth by Representative Hanson will help alleviate this challenge by allowing libraries across North Dakota to share a comprehensive picture of the services North Dakota's libraries provide and their importance to our communities.

As most of you are aware, the Minot area has been greatly impacted by the oil industry and the Minot Public Library has seen a tremendous increase in our usage. People from all walks of life come to the Library for information on housing, employment, civic and helping organizations and to use our many resources including books, electronic devices and technology (such as wireless internet access, computers, printers, scanners and more). Our inventory continues to grow, but it is still a struggle at times to meet the needs of our ever-expanding community. The Minot Public Library is fortunate to have the ability to utilize other resources throughout the state and we would benefit greatly from a study tracking items owned, orders made, bills paid, patrons who have borrowed and options for transferring materials between libraries as it would allow us to validate our needs to local leaders.

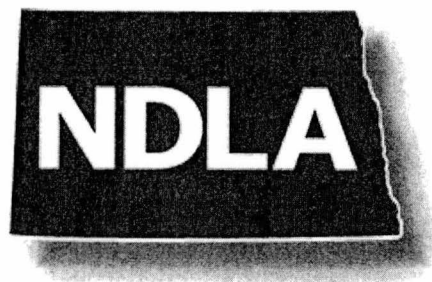
I ask that you support the continued growth of all libraries in North Dakota by voting in favor of the proposed Resolution to authorize a Legislative Management study of the automation of State Library data as used to track items owned, orders made, bills paid, patrons who have borrowed, and options for transferring materials between libraries.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janet Anderson*

Janet Anderson, Director  
Minot Public Library





## North Dakota Library Association

*Established 1906*

February 23, 2015

Dear North Dakota Legislative Assembly,

As current President of the North Dakota Library Association, I would like to express my support of the Concurrent Resolution introduced by Representative Hanson directing the Legislative Management to study the automation of State Library data.

As the professional association for libraries big and small across the state, NDLA is committed to pursuing all opportunities that will allow North Dakota libraries to increase their capacity to provide exceptional library services to the residents of our fine state.

The proposed study would provide valuable information regarding the current state of library automation, and would identify the barriers and challenges that our libraries, particularly those located in rural communities, face.

As the Director of the Leach Public Library in Wahpeton, North Dakota, I recognize the importance of library automation in connecting my library with the services and resources provided by libraries throughout the state. The proposed study would serve to increase this valuable network of libraries, librarians, and information.


I encourage you to support this Concurrent Resolution as we join together in strengthening library services throughout North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Greta Guck

President, North Dakota Library Association

Director, Leach Public Library



417 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N

Wahpeton, ND 58075

greta.leachplib@midconetwork.com



**Department of Public Instruction**  
600 E Boulevard Ave., Dept. 201, Bismarck, ND 58505-0440  
(701) 328-2260 Fax (701) 328-2461  
<http://www.dpi.state.nd.us>

# 2  
HCR 3045  
3/10/15  
Kirsten Baesler  
State Superintendent  
Robert J. Christman  
Deputy Superintendent

March 10, 2015

Dear Committee Chairman Nathe:

I am writing to support HCR3045, a resolution introduced by state Rep. Ben Hanson, which requests a legislative study of the automation and preservation of State Library data.

I oversee the State Library in my position as North Dakota's superintendent of public instruction. My library background includes work as a school library media specialist – better known as a school librarian -in the Bismarck school district, and I also served as president of the Mandan Public Library Board of Trustees for many years. That trustee's board helped bring about the merger of the Mandan and Morton County public libraries, a move that was motivated by and has resulted in better service to our rural library patrons.

This proposed study will assist in identifying ways to improve the operation and efficiency of the State Library. It will explore options for transferring materials between libraries and lead to proposals that will improve library services to North Dakota's rural countryside. As a native of Flasher in southwestern North Dakota who relied on rural library bookmobile services when growing up, these are objectives that are close to my heart.

A distinguished group of stakeholders would take part in this proposed study, including the Central Dakota Library Network, the Online Dakota Information Network, the state Board of Higher Education and the North Dakota Library Association.

I urge the Legislature to support HCR3045, and encourage the Legislative Management Committee to choose this resolution for an interim study.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Baesler  
State Superintendent

#1  
3/23/15

**TESTIMONY ON HCR 3045  
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Mary J. Soucie, State Librarian  
701-328-2492  
North Dakota State Library**

---

Dear Senator Flakoll and members of the Senate Education  
Committee,

For the record, my name is Mary Soucie and I am the State Librarian of North Dakota. I am testifying today on behalf of House Concurrent Resolution 3045. The Online Dakota Information Network, or ODIN, is our statewide network that connects libraries for the purposes of sharing resources. ODIN is a wonderful resource and many of our academic, public, and school libraries have been able to take advantage of becoming a member of ODIN. In addition, we have two independent consortia, Central Dakota Library Network (CDLN) in the Bismarck area and the North Central Library Authority in the Minot area. Many of our small public and school libraries function as stand-alone libraries, meaning they do not belong to a consortium of any kind, which makes it more difficult to participate in resource sharing. There are also some North Dakota libraries that are not automated at all, still using manual checkout methods. One of the

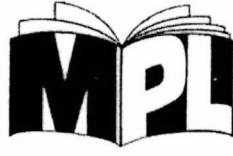
greatest benefits to automating is providing better service to library patrons through the means of an online catalog so that patrons can search the collection and place holds on library items from home. We would like to explore what are the barriers for libraries that haven't automated and for libraries that haven't joined a consortium. Citizens statewide benefit when libraries are better able to share their materials. Utilizing technology makes this process much easier and quicker for library patrons.

Libraries in North Dakota have a long, rich history of participating in resource sharing. For the members of ODIN, resource sharing is accomplished easily through a shared catalog and software. We are able to access the collections of other libraries in the state through OCLC which is a national shared catalog, and which is the basis for ODIN's catalog. The North Dakota Library Coordinating Council (NDLCC) has given grants through Library Vision to many libraries to join OCLC and/or ODIN. The NDLCC will continue to support resource sharing in this manner.

In addition to looking at the barriers to automating, the study will explore what automation systems are currently being used by the stand-alone libraries in North Dakota as well as explore what

opportunities there are to connect to those libraries, whether through ODIN or through another platform. We are also asking that the study look at the opportunities to implement a delivery system to transfer library materials from one library to the other. While North Dakota libraries are committed to resource sharing, the rising cost of postage is making it much harder for all libraries to participate, especially our small and rural libraries. We hope to be able to explore the opportunities for either a statewide or regional delivery system that will remove the cost barriers to resource sharing. If a system such as this is implemented, it will benefit residents all across the state.

I thank you for your time today. Letters of support from other agencies and libraries are attached to my testimony. I ask you for a "do pass" recommendation. I will answer any questions that members of the committee may have.



## MINOT PUBLIC LIBRARY

516 SECOND AVE. SW - MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA 58701-3792 - PHONE 701-852-1045 - FAX 701-852-2595  
WWW.MINOTLIBRARY.ORG

March 19, 2015

Senator Flakoll and members of the Education Committee,

I urge you to support HCR3045, authorizing a legislative study of North Dakota's libraries. Libraries are of extreme value to our communities due to our current cultural and economic settings. The services we provide are immense in both their variety and importance, yet it can be difficult to demonstrate this value to lawmakers in order to receive the necessary support to continue meeting the needs of our citizens. The Resolution put forth by Representative Hanson will help alleviate this challenge by allowing libraries across North Dakota to share a comprehensive picture of the services North Dakota's libraries provide and their importance to our communities.

As most of you are aware, the Minot area has been greatly impacted by the oil industry and the Minot Public Library has seen a tremendous increase in our usage. People from all walks of life come to the Library for information on housing, employment, civic and helping organizations and to use our many resources including books, electronic devices and technology (such as wireless internet access, computers, printers, scanners and more). Our inventory continues to grow, but it is still a struggle at times to meet the needs of our ever-expanding community. The Minot Public Library is fortunate to have the ability to utilize other resources throughout the state and we would benefit greatly from a study tracking items owned, orders made, bills paid, patrons who have borrowed and options for transferring materials between libraries as it would allow us to validate our needs to local leaders.

I ask that you support the continued growth of all libraries in North Dakota by voting in favor of the proposed Resolution to authorize a Legislative Management study of the automation of State Library data as used to track items owned, orders made, bills paid, patrons who have borrowed, and options for transferring materials between libraries.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janet Anderson*

Janet Anderson, Director  
Minot Public Library

4/14

Valley City Barnes County Public Library  
410 N Central Ave Valley City, ND 58072  
[www.vcbclibrary.org](http://www.vcbclibrary.org)

March 19, 2015

Senator Flakoll and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

I am asking for your complete support of HCR3045, relating to funding for the North Dakota State Library. A strong and well-funded State Library is essential in providing excellent library services to your constituents throughout the state of North Dakota. It is critically important for the state library to have an updated automation system so it can better serve all libraries across the state.

A library's automation system is at the center of all daily operations. The standard industry term for these programs is integrated library system or ILS for short. These sophisticated computer programs are used for much more than checking items in and out. As the term integrated implies these programs bring together all aspects of library operations; inventory, ordering, cataloging, interlibrary loans, bookkeeping, internet interfaces, and more, into one package. The Valley City Barnes County Public Library recently upgraded our ILS from an older system. The improvement to library operations, staff workflow, and ease of patron usage has been astonishing. It has been over a year and a half since the upgrade and we have not yet utilized all the features available in the system, it's that good. The new ILS has been instrumental in providing better customer service to all our patrons.

The Valley City Barnes County Public Library thankfully has the funding to purchase our own ILS. Many of the small, rural libraries across the state do not. Realistically the only way these libraries will get an ILS is through some type of consortia or cooperative agreement administered, and possibly partially funded, by the state library. The state library must have an updated ILS for this to happen. All the citizens of North Dakota should have access to the quality and convenience of an up-to-date integrated library system.

Please vote in favor of HCR3045. All libraries in North Dakota need your support, especially the State Library. I have worked as a professional librarian in three other states. I have seen firsthand how the quality of state libraries impacts the state. Good libraries say a lot about a community's priorities.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Steven A. Hammel MSLS

Library Director, Valley City Barnes County Public Library

5/14





# NDLA

## North Dakota Library Association

*Established 1906*

February 23, 2015

Dear North Dakota Legislative Assembly,

As current President of the North Dakota Library Association, I would like to express my support of the Concurrent Resolution introduced by Representative Hanson directing the Legislative Management to study the automation of State Library data.

As the professional association for libraries big and small across the state, NDLA is committed to pursuing all opportunities that will allow North Dakota libraries to increase their capacity to provide exceptional library services to the residents of our fine state.

The proposed study would provide valuable information regarding the current state of library automation, and would identify the barriers and challenges that our libraries, particularly those located in rural communities, face.

As the Director of the Leach Public Library in Wahpeton, North Dakota, I recognize the importance of library automation in connecting my library with the services and resources provided by libraries throughout the state. The proposed study would serve to increase this valuable network of libraries, librarians, and information.

I encourage you to support this Concurrent Resolution as we join together in strengthening library services throughout North Dakota.

Sincerely,

Greta Guck

President, North Dakota Library Association

Director, Leach Public Library

6/14

417 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N

Wahpeton, ND 58075

greta.leachplib@midconetwork.com

7/14

**Soucie, Mary J.**

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**From:** Bottineau County Public Library [bottineaulibrary@yahoo.com]  
**At:** Monday, February 23, 2015 10:38 AM  
**To:** Soucie, Mary J.  
**Subject:** Library Study Testimony

Dear Legislative Management;

I support the study of the automation of the State Library as proposed by Rep. Ben Hanson. We rely heavily upon the State Library and the option of Inter-Library loans to keep up with the ever changing demands of our patrons. With more people and a more diverse population coming into the community and county, we are often unable to fulfill their requests, as they are looking for materials that our budget and/or space doesn't always permit. With the help of the State Library and other libraries around the state, we are able to meet their needs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Beth Reitan

Bottineau County Public Library

Bottineau, North Dakota

8/14

**Soucie, Mary J.**

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**From:** Stukel, Tony J.  
**Sent:** Friday, February 20, 2015 4:53 PM  
**To:** Soucie, Mary J.  
**Subject:** Support for resolution to study automation in libraries

Members of the Committee

My name is Tony Stukel and I am the director of the Online Dakota Information Network, ODIN. I am writing to support the concurrent resolution to study automation in libraries throughout North Dakota. ODIN wishes to be a partner in the study of the current state of automation in libraries, the barriers to automating, and the opportunities for the future.

I ask the committee for a do pass recommendation.

**Tony Stukel**

Director, ODIN

NORTH DAKOTA  
University System

**Core Technology Services**

4349 James Ray Drive  
Grand Forks, ND 58202  
Phone 701.777.4777  
[www.odin.nodak.edu](http://www.odin.nodak.edu)

9/14

**Soucie, Mary J.**

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**From:** Mary Lorenz [Mary.Lorenz@gflibrary.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2015 12:21 PM  
**To:** Soucie, Mary J.  
**Subject:** re: Action Alert

The North Dakota State Library handles all our interlibrary loans that are from outside the Minitex area. This is an invaluable tool for us so that we can fill our patrons' requests. It's even more important to our small and rural North Dakota libraries that have limited budgets and staff. Please study the automation of the North Dakota State Library and vote favorable for an updated automation system. Thank you.

Mary Lorenz  
Reference Librarian  
Grand Forks Public Library

23 February 2015

To the honorable legislators of North Dakota:

I write in support Representative Ben Hanson's resolution to conduct a study of the automation of North Dakota's libraries. Libraries offer important services to their communities:

- 1) They support early childhood learning, particularly the acquisition of literacy.
- 2) They offer access to a broad range of materials – not just books, but online databases full of articles which are not available for free.
- 3) They offer access to computing facilities. In an age when job advertisements and applications are rapidly shifting to the online environment, this is particularly useful to job seekers who lack the funds to maintain a private Internet connection.

The legislature needs accurate, up-to-date information about how well the current system works in order to make sensible decisions about how to manage it going forward. Please vote in support of Representative Hanson's resolution.

Please note that while I am employed as a librarian by the University of North Dakota, I write as a private citizen, on my own time. The opinions expressed here are mine, and do not necessarily reflect those of my employer.

Thank you.

Will Martin

Grand Forks, ND

11/14

I am writing in support of the study proposed by Representative Ben Hanson. This study comes at a very important time for libraries in our state. North Dakota's population is ever-changing and growing while libraries adapt in ways to reach all citizens. In rural areas, you must find ways to reach all patrons such as a bookmobile like the Ward County Public Library has or multiple branches (we have one in Minot and one in Kenmare). Multiple patrons have said to me in the past year that they don't know what they would do without our bookmobile or our two branches. They rely on us to help them obtain the information that they seek. The bookmobile is also a service that the library depends on to help move materials that have been requested between the two branches. Our two branches are 52 miles apart, so currently patrons may have to wait a week or more to get books that they have requested. The bookmobile travels between the two branches at the end of each month when we go to the schools in Kenmare and a board member kindly volunteered to bring and take books between the branches when she comes to the board meetings in the second week of the month. Even our wonderful inter-library loan service can be taxing on budgets as the cost of postage continues to rise. This study would give a comprehensive look at library services around North Dakota from the biggest libraries to the smallest volunteer-run libraries to those in the middle. Libraries serve people around the state to increase the value of North Dakotan's daily lives and to play an important role in the healthiness of a community. To continue to do this things requires everyone to look at what is succeeding and where we need to continue to grow.

Kerri Tyler

Ward County Public Library Administrator

Minot, ND

12/14

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 3045**

**Testimony of Charlene Weis, President**

**Central Dakota Library Network**

**February 24, 2015**

Central Dakota Library Network (CDLN) is encouraging support from the North Dakota Legislature for the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution No. 3045 that would direct the Legislative Management to study the State Library automation system and other library issues in the state of North Dakota. There is a long history of studying library issues by the North Dakota Legislature. Regional Library Cooperatives were established in North Dakota Century Code by previous legislative sessions. As you know technology is always changing and the state of libraries change as well so it is time to readdress important library issues.

CDLN would be happy to help assist with this valuable library study by being a successful example of its choice of automation and also library collaboration. At present CDLN is a consortium of twenty rural and urban libraries in central North Dakota. It has had twenty plus years of cooperation and sharing using library automation software to keep track of items owned and borrowed to patrons. CDLN efficiently uses a courier system to move its items from library to library.

Libraries offer great service to the citizens of North Dakota.

Thank you for your consideration of House Concurrent Resolution No. 3045.





## TESTIMONY REGARDING LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY

February 23, 2015

Timothy S. Dirks, MLIS, MPA  
Director  
Fargo Public Library

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of the concurrent resolution proposed by Representative Ben Hanson requesting Legislative Management study library automation and resource sharing services in the state.

In this current environment technologies exist that would empower even the smallest library in our state to have access to databases and resources of vital importance to our rural citizens. While automation and resource sharing have long become standard for libraries in other states, it currently is highly uneven in North Dakota. A study would go a long way to ensure that the citizens both rural and urban in North Dakota have access to a high level of library services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Dirks".



Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library

March 23, 2015

To: Senate Education Committee  
 From: Christine Kujawa  
 Library Director  
 Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library  
 701-355-1482 [ckujawa@cdln.info](mailto:ckujawa@cdln.info)

Re: HCR 3045

Chairman Flakoll and Members of the Education Committee,

My name is Christine Kujawa, Library Director at the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library and President of the Central Dakota Library Network.

I am in favor of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 3045 regarding the study of the automation and future cooperative efforts of ND libraries, as endorsed by Representative Hanson.

As the Library Director of a member library within a successful library cooperative, I can speak to the benefits of shared library system software, resources, and the resultant shared cost benefit.

The Central Dakota Library Network began in 1993 with a small group of libraries in the Bismarck-Mandan area. Today we have over 20 libraries spanning five counties.

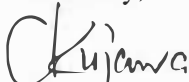
Benefits of belonging to a cooperative network include:

- Patrons have access to more resources with a quicker turnaround time for receiving information from outside of their home library, which results in increased opportunities for lifelong learning and personal enrichment
- Demand and group purchasing of software results in more leverage for price negotiation of the software
- It provides an arrangement for sharing collections and cooperative acquisitions and
- Shared opportunities in professional development and networking.

Creating more options for cooperation amongst North Dakota's libraries would directly benefit our patrons by providing a more efficient way for them to access resources.

As a member of a successful, thriving, library network, I certainly think that it would be worthwhile to invest in a cost-benefit analysis of potential cooperative agreements for libraries throughout the rest of state.

Sincerely,

  
 Christine Kujawa

11



**Department of Public Instruction**  
600 E Boulevard Ave., Dept. 201, Bismarck, ND 58505-0440  
(701) 328-2260 Fax (701) 328-2461

<http://www.dpi.state.nd.us>

**Kirsten Baesler**  
State Superintendent  
**Robert J. Christman**  
Deputy Superintendent

March 23, 2015

Dear Committee Chairman Flakoll:

I am writing to support HCR3045, a resolution introduced by state Rep. Ben Hanson, which requests a legislative study of the automation and preservation of State Library data.

I oversee the State Library in my position as North Dakota's superintendent of public instruction. My library background includes work as a school library media specialist – better known as a school librarian – in the Bismarck school district, and I also served as president of the Mandan Public Library Board of Trustees for many years. That trustee's board helped bring about the merger of the Mandan and Morton County public libraries, a move that was motivated by and has resulted in better service to our rural library patrons.

This proposed study will assist in identifying ways to improve the operation and efficiency of the State Library. It will explore options for transferring materials between libraries and lead to proposals that will improve library services to North Dakota's rural countryside. As a native of Flasher in southwestern North Dakota who relied on rural library bookmobile services when growing up, these are objectives that are close to my heart.

A distinguished group of stakeholders would take part in this proposed study, including the Central Dakota Library Network, the Online Dakota Information Network, the state Board of Higher Education and the North Dakota Library Association.

I urge the Legislature to support HCR3045, and encourage the Legislative Management Committee to choose this resolution for an interim study.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Baesler  
State Superintendent