2017 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2091

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Sheyenne River Room, State Capitol

SB 2091
1/4/2017
26515

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature Sandra Baumgartner

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to required science units for high school graduation and scholarships

Minutes: #1

Chairman Schaible: Call meeting to order for SB 2091. All members present except Senator Davison.
Robin Lang, Assistant Director in the Office of Teacher and School Effectiveness for DPI testifies, see attachment #1.
Chairman Schaible: Any questions? Other testimony is favor of? Any against? None. Close the hearing.
Senator Rust: As I see this bill it is a case to provide an expanded opportunity for students to have a more rigorous course work and be more prepared for life after high school whither it be college or elsewhere. I see this as a step-up and would be in favor of this bill passing.
Chairman Schaible: Any other conversation? Senator Rust made motion for a Do Pass on SB 2091. Senator Oban seconded. Call for vote. Vote taken. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 absent. SB 2091 is passed. **Senator Rust** will carry. Meeting adjourned.

Date: 4/4/17
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2017 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2091

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 Rust Seconded By Oban

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Schaible	✓		Senator Oban	✓	
Vice-Chairman Rust	✓				
Senator Davison	ab				
Senator Kannianen	✓				
Senator Vedaa	✓				

Total (Yes) 5 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Senator Rust

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2091: Education Committee (Sen. Schaible, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2091 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2017 HOUSE EDUCATION

SB 2091

2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Coteau A Room, State Capitol

SB 2091
2/15/2017
Job 28414

☐ Subcommittee
☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to required science units for high school graduation and scholarships.

Minutes: Attachment 1.

Chairman- Mark S. Owens: please.

Robin Lang: see attachment 1.

Chairman- Mark S. Owens: any questions, seeing none, thank you. Further support for SB 2091. Opposition to SB 2091. Neutral testimony on SB 2091, closing the hearing on SB 2091. Committee?

Rep. Dennis Johnson: I move a do pass on SB 2091.

Chairman- Mark S. Owens: we have a motion from Rep. Dennis Johnson for a do pass, and a second from Rep. Denton Zubke. Any discussion? Seeing none I will invite the clerk to call for a do pass vote on SB 2091. 13-0-1, and Rep. Bill Oliver will carry this bill.

Date: 2/15/17

Roll Call Vote 1

2017 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
Roll Call Votes

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2091

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 D. Johnson Seconded By Zubke

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman- Mark S. Owens	✓		Rep. Bill Oliver	✓	
Rep. Corey Mock	✓		Rep. Rich S. Becker	✓	
Rep. Denton Zubke	✓		Rep. Longmuir	✓	
Rep. Andrew Marschall	✓		Rep. Mary Johnson	✓	
Rep. Dennis Johnson	✓		Rep. Brandy Pyle	AB	
Rep. Matthew Ruby	✓		Rep. Ron Guggisberg	✓	
Rep. Pat D. Heinert	✓		Vice Chairman- Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	✓	

Total (Yes) 13 No Ø

Absent 1 Rep. Pyle

Floor Assignment Rep. Oliver.

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2091: Education Committee (Rep. Owens, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2091 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2017 TESTIMONY

SB 2091

1-4-17
SB 2091 #1
#1

TESTIMONY ON SB 2091
Senate Education Committee
January 4, 2017
By: Robin Lang, Teacher & School Effectiveness Assistant Director
701-328-2755 or roclang@nd.gov
North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

Chairman Schaible and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robin Lang and I am an Assistant Director in the Office of Teacher and School Effectiveness for the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. I am here to provide supportive testimony on SB 2091.

The purpose of the bill is to provide expanded opportunities within the science requirements for high school graduation and the North Dakota (ND) Academic and Career and Technical Education Scholarship. Currently, the science requirements for students include:

1. One unit of biology,
2. One unit of physical science, and
3. One unit or two half units of any other science.

The section of the science requirement that has been brought to our attention is the physical science. It is generally taught in ninth grade in all schools across the state. A concern often arises when a student between grades 10-12 moves into North Dakota from other states or other countries and has not yet taken physical science. If the student is enrolled before ninth grade, the physical science requirement is not an

issue. The student will be enrolled in the physical science course and graduate with all the ND science requirements.

However, if the student is in grades 10-12, it is often difficult to meet this requirement. The student must take a ninth grade course and be enrolled in a class with younger students. In addition, enrolling older students in a ninth grade physical science course can get complicated. Also some districts have high school buildings for grades 10-12 and the student may have to be transported to another building to take the course.

Because of the complexity of this situation, schools often will allow other sciences for those students in this situation. There are also some schools that prefer to have students enroll in chemistry and physics rather than physical science. These schools feel they are meeting the physical science requirement by requiring more rigorous science courses that encompass physical science.

A state course code is assigned to every class in ND schools. The course codes and descriptions provide uniform recording and course descriptions. Consistency in reporting courses statewide is critical in reviewing school data and managing information. When determining ND graduation and scholarship requirements, it is key to assure all students are meeting the same requirements through the course codes. Currently, this means a student must take physical science.

Adding the option of allowing a student to take two science courses, Chemistry and Physics, in lieu of the one physical science course, will provide students with another choice – a choice that is more rigorous and has more in-depth knowledge within the science area.

To compare the definition of physical science and chemistry/physics, below are dictionary definitions and the ND course code definitions.

The Merriam-Webster Learner's Dictionary definition of physical science is – "an areas of science that deals with materials that are not alive and the ways in which nonliving things work". At Merriam-Webster.com, the definition says – "any of the natural sciences (as physics, chemistry, and astronomy) that deal primarily with nonliving materials."

The ND course code broad definitions for physical science, chemistry and physics are:

Physical Science: involves the study of the structures and states of matter. Typically (but not always) offered as introductory survey courses, they may include such topics as forms of energy, wave phenomenon, electromagnetism, and physical and chemical interactions.

Chemistry: involves studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. This course typically explores such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and

atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Physics: involves the study of the forces and laws of nature affecting matter, such as equilibrium, motion, momentum and the relationship between matter and energy. The study of physics includes examination of sound, light, and magnetic and electric phenomena.

The outcome of the additional science option for students will encourage a more advanced science track for students who will be better prepared for future science courses.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee that concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Attachment 1 SB2091
2/15/17

TESTIMONY ON SB 2091
House Education Committee
February 15, 2017
By: Robin Lang, School Approval and Opportunity, Assistant Director
701-328-2244 or roclang@nd.gov
North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

Chairman Owens and Members of the House Education Committee:

My name is Robin Lang and I am an Assistant Director in the Office of School Approval and Opportunity for the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. I am here to provide supportive testimony on SB 2091.

The purpose of the bill is to provide expanded opportunities within the science requirements for high school graduation and the North Dakota (ND) Academic and Career and Technical Education Scholarship. Currently, the science requirements for students include:

1. One unit of biology,
2. One unit of physical science, and
3. One unit or two half units of any other science.

The section of the science requirement that has been brought to our attention is the physical science. It is generally taught in ninth grade in all schools across the state. A concern often arises when a student between grades 10-12 moves into North Dakota from other states or other countries and has not yet taken physical science. If the student is enrolled before ninth grade, the physical science requirement is not an

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Physics: involves the study of the forces and laws of nature affecting matter, such as equilibrium, motion, momentum and the relationship between matter and energy. The study of physics includes examination of sound, light, and magnetic and electric phenomena.

The outcome of the additional science option for students will encourage a more advanced science track for students who will be better prepared for future science courses.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee that concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.