2023 JOINT APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1544

2023 JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Pioneer Room, State Capitol

HB 1544
10/23/2023

BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of commerce for workforce development grants and to defray the expenses of the office of legal immigration; to create and enact subsection 6 of section 10-30.5-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to use of the North Dakota development fund; to provide for a legislative management report; to provide for retroactive application; and to provide an effective date.

4:49 PM Chairman Vigesaa called the meeting to order and roll call was taken:

Members present; Chairman Vigesaa, Representative Kempenich, B. Anderson, Bellew, Brandenburg, Hanson, Kreidt, Martinson, Mitskog, Meier, Mock, Monson, Nathe, J. Nelson, Pyle, Richter, Sanford, Schatz, Strinden, G. Stemen and Swiontek.

Chairman Bekkedahl, Senator Krebsbach, Burckhard, Davison, Dever, Dwyer, Erbele, Kreun, Mathern, Meyer, Roers, Rust, Schaible, Sorvaag, Vedaa, and Wanzek.

Members not present; Representative O'Brien and Representative Schobinger

Discussion Topics:

- Amendments

Levi Kinnischtzke- Senior Fiscal Analyst Introduces HB 1544 and answers questions for the committee.

4:57 PM Josh Teigen- Commissioner of the ND Department of Commerce- Speaks in favor of the bill.

Donna Brown -Turtle Mountain Community College- Speaks in favor of HB 1544

Representative Lisa Finley-DeVille- District 4A Fort Berthold Reservation- Speaks in favor of HB 1541 and offers an amendment 23.1164.01001 **(Testimony #28033)**

Senator Meyer- Proposes and explains amendment 23.01164.01003 **(Testimony #28043)**

Senator Meyer- Move to adopt amendment 23.01164.01003

Representative Martinson- Seconds the motion

Committee Discussion

Roll call vote was taken:

Senators	Vote	Representatives	Vote
Senator Bekkedahl	N	Representative Don Vigesaa	N
Senator Karen Krebsbach	N	Representative Keith Kempenich	N
Senator Randy Burckhard	N	Representative Bert Anderson	N
Senator Kyle Davison	N	Representative Larry Bellew	N
Senator Dick Dever	N	Representative Mike Brandenburg	N
Senator Michael Dwyer	N	Representative Karla Rose Hanson	N
Senator Robert Erbele	N	Representative Gary Kreidt	N
Senator Curt Kreun	N	Representative Bob Martinson	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	N	Representative Lisa Meier	N
Senator Scott Meyer	Y	Representative Alisa Mitskog	N
Senator Jim Roers	N	Representative Corey Mock	N
Senator David Rust	N	Representative David Monson	N
Senator Donald Schaible	N	Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	N	Representative Jon O. Nelson	N
Senator Shawn Vedaa	N	Representative Emily O'Brien	A
Senator Terry Wanzek	Y	Representative Brandy Pyle	N
		Representative David Richter	N
		Representative Mark Sanford	Y
		Representative Mike Schatz	N
		Representative Randy A. Schobinger	A
		Representative Greg Stemen	Y
		Representative Michelle Strinden	N
		Representative Steve Swiontek	Y

Motion Fails 7-30-2 (House 5-16-2 Senate 2-14-0)

Senator Mathern- Move to adopt amendment 23.1164.01001 **(Testimony #28045)**

Representative J. Nelson- Seconds the motion

Committee Discussion

Roll call vote was taken:

Senators	Vote	Representatives	Vote
Senator Bekkedahl	N	Representative Don Vigesaa	N
Senator Karen Krebsbach	N	Representative Keith Kempenich	N
Senator Randy Burckhard	N	Representative Bert Anderson	N
Senator Kyle Davison	N	Representative Larry Bellew	N
Senator Dick Dever	N	Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y	Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y	Representative Gary Kreidt	Y
Senator Curt Kreun	N	Representative Bob Martinson	N
Senator Tim Mathern	Y	Representative Lisa Meier	N
Senator Scott Meyer	N	Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Senator Jim Roers	N	Representative Corey Mock	Y
Senator David Rust	N	Representative David Monson	N
Senator Donald Schaible	N	Representative Mike Nathe	N
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	N	Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y

Senator Shawn Vedaa	Y	Representative Emily O'Brien	A
Senator Terry Wanzek	Y	Representative Brandy Pyle	N
		Representative David Richter	Y
		Representative Mark Sanford	Y
		Representative Mike Schatz	N
		Representative Randy A. Schobinger	A
		Representative Greg Stemen	N
		Representative Michelle Strinden	N
		Representative Steve Swiontek	N

Motion Fails 13-24-2 (House 8-13-2 Senate 5-11-0)

6:00 PM Representative Richter- Each tribally controlled community college in the state is eligible for 500 thousand dollars.

Senator Vedaa- Seconds the motion

Roll call vote was taken;

Senators	Vote	Representatives	Vote
Senator Bekkedahl	N	Representative Don Vigesaa	N
Senator Karen Krebsbach	N	Representative Keith Kempenich	N
Senator Randy Burckhard	N	Representative Bert Anderson	N
Senator Kyle Davison	N	Representative Larry Bellew	N
Senator Dick Dever	N	Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y	Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y	Representative Gary Kreidt	N
Senator Curt Kreun	N	Representative Bob Martinson	N
Senator Tim Mathern	Y	Representative Lisa Meier	N
Senator Scott Meyer	N	Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Senator Jim Roers	N	Representative Corey Mock	Y
Senator David Rust	N	Representative David Monson	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y	Representative Mike Nathe	N
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	N	Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y
Senator Shawn Vedaa	Y	Representative Emily O'Brien	A
Senator Terry Wanzek	Y	Representative Brandy Pyle	Y
		Representative David Richter	Y
		Representative Mark Sanford	Y
		Representative Mike Schatz	N
		Representative Randy A. Schobinger	A
		Representative Greg Stemen	Y
		Representative Michelle Strinden	N
		Representative Steve Swiontek	N

Motion Fails 16-21-2 (House 10-11-2 Senate 6-10-0)

Senate Senator Erbele- Move moves for a Do Pass

Senator Mathern- Seconds the motion

Roll call vote was taken;

Senators	Vote	Representatives	Vote
Senator Bekkedahl	Y	Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Senator Karen Krebsbach	Y	Representative Keith Kempenich	Y
Senator Randy Burckhard	Y	Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y	Representative Larry Bellew	N
Senator Dick Dever	Y	Representative Mike Brandenburg	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y	Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y	Representative Gary Kreidt	Y
Senator Curt Kreun	Y	Representative Bob Martinson	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y	Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y	Representative Alisa Mitskog	Y
Senator Jim Roers	Y	Representative Corey Mock	Y
Senator David Rust	Y	Representative David Monson	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y	Representative Mike Nathe	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y	Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y
Senator Shawn Vedaa	Y	Representative Emily O'Brien	A
Senator Terry Wanzek	Y	Representative Brandy Pyle	Y
		Representative David Richter	Y
		Representative Mark Sanford	Y
		Representative Mike Schatz	N
		Representative Randy A. Schobinger	A
		Representative Greg Stemen	Y
		Representative Michelle Strinden	Y
		Representative Steve Swiontek	Y

Motion Carries 35-2-2 (House 19-2-2 Senate 16-0-0)

Representative K. Hanson and Senator T. Wanzek will carry the bill.

Additional Testimony- In Favor Andrea Pfenning, Greater North Dakota Chamber **#28025**, Dr. Twyla Baker, President- Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College **#28064**

6:07 PM Chairman Vigesaa Closed the meeting for HB 1544

Risa Berube, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1544: Joint Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Co-Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (19 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1544 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1544: Joint Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Co-Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (16 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1544 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

TESTIMONY

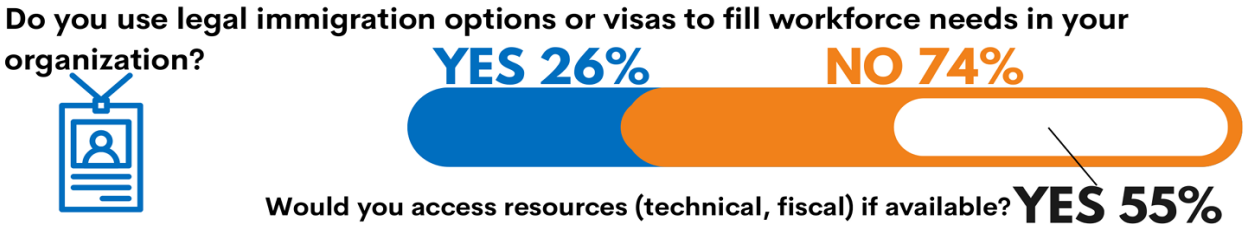
HB 1544

Greater North Dakota Chamber

GREATER NORTH DAKOTA CHAMBER
HB 1544
Joint Appropriations Committee
October 22, 2023

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Andrea Pfennig with the Greater North Dakota Chamber. GNDC is North Dakota's largest statewide business advocacy organization, with membership represented by small and large businesses, local chambers, and trade and industry associations across the state. We stand in **support** of House Bill 1544.

Access to workforce continues to be an issue impacting businesses in North Dakota. GNDC recently completed an economics and employer membership survey in which 74% of respondents indicated they were having trouble hiring employees. Additionally, while 26% of respondents indicated they currently use legal immigration options, another 55% indicated they would if resources were available.



Our members support workforce readiness opportunities for transitioning populations. GNDC feels that the Office of Legal Immigration has the potential to be a significant tool for North Dakota employers.

We hope you will support the $2 million in funds to help establish the Office of Legal Immigration and urge a **Do Pass** recommendation on HB 1544. Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, this concludes my comments. Thank you and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

701.222.0929 ndchamber@ndchamber.com ndchamber.com PO Box 2639 • Bismarck, ND 58502

Good Morning. My name is representative Lisa Finley-DeVille. I represent district 4A, Ft. Berthold Reservation.

I am honored to address you today in support of a workforce grant for North Dakota's Tribal Colleges and the vital role they play in empowering individuals, fostering economic growth, and enhancing the overall well-being of our communities. North Dakota is home to 5 tribal nations. Each offer low-cost secondary education at local accredited institutions for their communities. These grants serve as a crucial investment in our future, and I would like to highlight several reasons why their continued funding is essential.

1. Skill Development and Employability: Workforce grants enable our citizens to gain access to training and education programs that enhance their skills and employability. These grants open doors for individuals to learn new trades, improve existing skills, and stay competitive in the evolving job market.

2. Job Creation and Economic Growth: By supporting workforce development for NHSC, we can create even more opportunities for a skilled workforce that is attractive to local businesses and growing industries in our region.

3. Meeting Industry Demand: Investment in tribal colleges through workforce development grants can be tailored to address the specific needs of local industries. They ensure that individuals receive training that directly aligns with the skills and qualifications required by employers, making the labor force more adaptable and responsive to market demands.

4. Closing the Skills Gap: The workforce landscape is constantly changing, and the skills gap is a persistent challenge. Workforce grants play a vital role in closing this gap by funding education and training programs that target in-demand skills, helping us keep pace with technological advancements.

5. Community Resilience: A well-skilled workforce is better prepared to adapt to economic shocks and recover from downturns. By investing in workforce development, we foster a more resilient and prosperous community. Tribal colleges often collaborate with the North Dakota

University System to enhance students' academic experience, retention, persistence and seamless transfer.

6. Public institutions: Tribal colleges are affordable and accessible to Native and non-Native students alike.

7. Growth of economic contributions: In 2019, tribal colleges contributed over $145 million to North Dakota's economy according to the 2020 Economic Modeling Specialists International

North Dakota's Tribal colleges would greatly benefit from the workforce grants are not merely investments in education and training; they are investments in the people who make up our community and the economic prosperity of our region. I urge you to continue your support for these grants, recognizing their profound impact on our citizens' lives, our local businesses, and the overall vitality of our community.

On a personal note. I received my higher education on Ft. Berthold Reservation. I received my Associate of Arts and Associate of Sciences, Bachelor, and my Masters degrees from NHSC. Three of my children graduated from ND tribal colleges with one more soon to graduate from NHSC. My youngest is anticipating attending UTTC. We chose to continue our education at home where tribal colleges are more affordable with low-cost tuition and culturally relevant curriculum.

Thank you. I stand for questions.

23.1164.01003
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Senator Meyer
October 23, 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1544

Page 1, line 2, replace the first "and" with a comma

Page 1, line 2, after "immigration" insert ", and the tourism destination development initiative program"

Page 1, after line 23, insert:

"3. $20,000,000 for the purpose of the tourism destination development initiative program. The funding provided in this subsection is considered a one-time funding item."

Page 2, line 6, replace "This" with "Subsections 1 and 2 of section 1 and section 2 of this"

Page 2, line 6, replace "applies" with "apply"

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

This amendment provides a one-time $20 million general fund appropriation to the Department of Commerce for the tourism destination development initiative program. This amount is in addition to the $25 million appropriated from the strategic investment and improvements fund in House Bill No. 1018 (2023).

23.1164.01001
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Representative Finley-DeVille
October 23, 2023

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1544

Page 1, line 12, replace "$500,000" with "$2,500,000"

Page 1, line 12, remove "a"

Page 1, line 13, replace "college in the Turtle Mountain area" with "colleges. The department of commerce shall distribute funding provided in this subsection equally to each tribally controlled community college in the state"

Renumber accordingly

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:

This amendment increases the $500,000 general fund appropriation for workforce development grants to tribally controlled community colleges to $2.5 million and requires the Department of Commerce to provide $500,000 to each tribally controlled community college in the state rather than providing $500,000 only to a tribally controlled community college in the Turtle Mountain area.

Dr. Twyla Baker Testimony Workforce Grant

NDTCS advocates and advances culturally focused post-secondary opportunities for Indigenous students to empower students to facilitate change for Tribal Nations and communities.

The North Dakota Tribal College System acts collectively to align, develop, design strategies and advocate for projects that meet the goals of students and communities.

Chartered by federally recognized Tribal governments, North Dakota's Tribal colleges teach and preserve culture and language as a component of the academic curriculum. Tribal colleges are public, affordable, non-profit post-secondary institutions accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, the same as state post-secondary institutions. Tribal colleges proactively collaborate with the North Dakota University System to enhance students' academic experience that allows for seamless transfers.

NDTCS strongly supports the passage of HB 1544 supporting the career and technical education work we do on our campuses. Tribal colleges are a key provider of CTE for Native and non-Native populations in the state, allowing our students to enter the workforce directly with in demand skill sets, supporting our overall state economy. While we already are engaged in this work, development and redesign of CTE programs on our campuses is, like on any campus, needed for their success. Receipt of these dollars would allow for the TCUs in North Dakota to both improve existing programs and develop new based on needs in our communities. Plans at each campus are outlined in the proposal attached, and we welcome input or conversation regarding these initiatives. Many thanks go to our partners at the State for our long standing collaborations in the past, and we look forward to continuing those partnerships well into the future.