2023 SENATE EDUCATION

SCR 4015

2023 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SCR 4015
2/7/2023

Recognizing the 25th anniversary of the ratification of the Good Friday Agreement that provided the framework for lasting peace in Northern Ireland and celebrating the flag of Ireland as a symbol of peace and a link between the US and Ireland.

9:00 AM Chjair Elkin opened the hearing. Present: Chair Elkin, Vice Chair Beard, Sen Axtman, Sen Conley, Sen Lemm, and Sen Wobbema.

Discussion Topics:

- Irish caucus
- ND relationship

Sen Kathy Hogan, Dist 21, bill sponsor testified in support #19335, #19336.

Sen Wobbema moved a DO PASS

Sen Axtman seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Jay Elkin	Y
Senator Todd Beard	Y
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Randy D. Lemm	Y
Senator Michael A. Wobbema	Y

VOTE: YES – 6 NO – 0 Absent – 0 Motion PASSED

Sen Conley will carry the bill.

9:20 AM Chair Elkin closed the hearing.

Pam Dever, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4015: Education Committee (Sen. Elkin, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4015 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar. This resolution does not affect workforce development.

2023 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SCR 4015

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Political Subdivisions Committee
Room JW327B, State Capitol

SCR 4015
3/9/2023

A concurrent resolution recognizing the 25th anniversary of the ratification of the Good Friday Agreement that provided the framework for lasting peace in Northern Ireland and celebrating the flag of Ireland as a symbol of peace and a link between the United States and Ireland.

3:00 PM Chairman Longmuir opened the hearing. Members present: Chairman Longmuir, Vice Chairman Fegley, Rep. Hatlestad, Rep. Heilman, Rep. Holle, Rep. Jonas, Rep. Klemin, Rep. Motschenbacher, Rep. Ostlie, Rep. Rios, Rep. Toman, Rep. Warrey, Rep. Davis, and Rep. Hager.

Discussion Topics:

- History of Irish immigration.
- Good Friday Agreement.

Senator Hogan: Introduced the bill. Testimony #23004, #23005

Rep. Schneider: Testimony #23458

Rep. Klemin moved a Do Pass; Seconded by Rep. Jonas

Representatives	Vote
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Clayton Fegley	Y
Representative Jayme Davis	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Patrick Hatlestad	Y
Representative Matt Heilman	Y
Representative Dawson Holle	Y
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Lawrence R. Klemin	Y
Representative Mike Motschenbacher	Y
Representative Mitch Ostlie	Y
Representative Nico Rios	Y
Representative Nathan Toman	Y
Representative Jonathan Warrey	Y

Roll call vote: 14 Yes 0 0 No 0 Absent Motion carried. Carrier: Rep. Klemin

The meeting closed at 3:22 PM.

Delores Shimek, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SCR 4015: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Longmuir, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4015 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

TESTIMONY

SCR 4015

Testimony
SCR 4015
Senate Education Committee
February 7, 2023

Chairman Elkin and members of the Education Committee: My name is Kathy Hogan and I represent District 21 which is central Fargo with a corner of West Fargo.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 4015 comes to you because of a St. Patrick's Day email all seated legislators in the US received in 2020 from Mark Daly, President of the Irish Senate wishing us a happy St. Patrick's Day. Being a bit of an Irish girl married to a definite Irish man, I sent a reply to Mr. Daly and within two hours he had personally called my home to talk. Over the next several weeks we discussed forming a chapter of the American Irish Caucus in North Dakota. Over the last two years, we have had 10 ND legislators participate in this national group, primarily at CSG and NCSL meetings to discuss ways of improving cooperation and understanding between Ireland and the US--both at the federal level and at the state level.

You may not know the history of the Irish in ND, but it started during the great settlement period of history (1850 – 1920). A small, but strong community of Scotch-Irish-English background played an especially influential role, contributing to many of North Dakota's early business and political leaders. Towns like Kenmare, Bantry and Fargo have especially strong Irish roots.

Most of the early priests in eastern ND and Bishops in the Catholic Church came from Ireland. Those Bishops helped bring the Irish Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mother or the Fargo Presentation Sisters to ND in 1862 Those Sisters then started or bought and managed 5 hospitals throughout ND and 11 Catholic Schools in ND.

This resolution recognizes one of the important peace agreements that have effectively ended a 300-year conflict between the British and the Irish. The Good Friday Accord is celebrating its' 25th anniversary this year. The framework for that agreement has resulted in the building of trusted relations and negotiations are still on-going about the possible unification of Ireland.

This resolution is important to all North Dakotans with Irish heritage--both Catholic and Protestant--because we have come to understand that peace is possible.

Please vote aye on this resolution.

SCR 4015

North Dakota infrastructure that was established or purchased by the by the Irish Presentation Sisters

Hospitals

Carrington

New Rockford

Grafton

Park River

Langdon

Schools

Langdon (St Alphonso)

New Rockford (St. James)

Skyston (St. Elizabeth)

Oaks (St. Charles)

Sheldon (St Mary's)

Lidgerwood (St Boniface)

Fargo (St. Joseph's Academy – 1862)
St. Johns
Sacred Heart Academy
St. Mary's
St. Anthony
Holy Spirit

Testimony -- SCR 4015
House Political Subdivisions Committee
Senator Kathy Hogan
March 9, 2023

Chairman Longmuir and members of the Political Subdivisions Committee, my name is Kathy Hogan and I represent District 21 which is central Fargo with a corner of West Fargo.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 4015 comes to you because of a St. Patrick's Day email sent to all seated legislators in the US in 2020 from Mark Daly, President of the Irish Senate, wishing us a happy St. Patrick's Day. Being a bit of an Irish girl married to a definite Irish man, I sent a reply to Mr. Daly and within two hours he had personally called my home to talk. Over the next several weeks we discussed forming a chapter of the American Irish Caucus in North Dakota. Over the last two years, we have had 10 ND legislators participate in this national group, primarily at CSG and NCSL meetings to discuss ways of improving cooperation and understanding between Ireland and the US both at the federal level and at the state- level.

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Scotch-Irish-English background played an especially influential role, contributing many of North Dakota's early business and political leaders. Towns like Kenmare, Bantry and Fargo have especially strong Irish roots.

Most of the early priests and Bishops in eastern ND in the Catholic Church came from Ireland. Those Bishops helped bring the Irish Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mother or the Fargo Presentation Sisters to ND in 1862. Those Sisters then started or bought and managed 5 hospitals throughout ND and 11 Catholic Schools in ND.

This resolution recognizes one of important peace agreements that has effectively ended a 300-hundred-year conflict between the British and the Irish. The Good Friday Accord is celebrating its' 25th anniversary this year. The framework for that agreement has resulted in the building of new trusted relations and negotiations that are still on-going about possible unification of Ireland.

This resolution is important to all North Dakotans with Irish heritage both Catholic and Protestant because we have come to understand that peace is possible. Please vote aye on this resolution.

SCR 4015

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St. Mary's
St. Anthony
Holy Spirit

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COMMITTEES:
Human Services
Government and Veterans Affairs

Testimony in Support of SCR 4015

By Representative Mary Schneider

House Political Subdivisions Committee, Rep. Donald Longmuir, Chair

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Chairman Longmuir and Members of the Committee:

You may have looked quizzically at this resolution and wondered at its addition to your schedule today, and questioned its value to our state, or even our country. After my testimony you may still wonder, but let me lend a bit of context. Between 1845 and 1852 Ireland lost one million of its population to starvation and 2.1 million to emigration during a multi-year potato famine, when the crop tenant farm families and rural communities needed to survive rotted in the fields, and while the controlling British shipped other Irish crops and livestock to England.

Huge numbers of the emigrants came to the United States through Ellis Island or, like my antecedents, through Canada, possibly without meeting legal requirements, after being turned away when their numbers became too massive and intimidating. In part because of their looks, language, literacy and laughs, the Irish integrated quickly into American life, especially targeting land ownership, particularly for farming, and power professions such as law enforcement, law, and politics, as priorities. Today there are more people of Irish descent in the U.S. than in Ireland. Many are a part of our history, such as 14 U.S. presidents, our famous North Dakotan, Supreme Court Justice Burke, and the Governor of Montana mentioned in the bill. I'll also out a few of the House members cleverly disguised by their more ethnically acceptable names: Representatives Koppelman, LeFor, and me, Deutsch Schneider are also Irish. Plus, there's Rep. Murphy who disguises nothing.

Our interactions with Ireland have been and remain strong: commercially, educationally, culturally, and politically. We are the greatest number of visitors to their island. My first trip was as a penniless 19-year-old student selected by NDSU to spend the summer there on a program SU paid for called the Experiment in International Living. I was able to stay with a Protestant family, Catholic family, and work with a farm family and fishing family, and was one of two students given a tour of a British barracks in the occupied, beleaguered, and barb-wired town of Derry. It was a time of sectarian violence, unrest, political and religious divisions.

Interestingly, at that time the president of Ireland, Eammon DeValera, was American, as was the mayor of Dublin. Since college I have been back to Ireland over two dozen times, getting my advanced law degree in

international human rights there on a Bush Fellowship in 2006. Coincidentally, I was in Derry at that time, when the barracks was finally closed and the last of the barbed wire was rolled up.

This bill is about supporting the 25-year-old Good Friday Agreement. Before that document was more than 900 years of unrest, foreign occupation, repression and violence that lead to the statement that "Ireland doesn't have a future, it's just the past happening over and over again." So why do we even care about the Good Friday Agreement in the U.S.? Well, because of continuing close relationships between our countries, the benefits of peace to our interactions, and because of our role in ending the hundreds of years of conflict and misery.

The Agreement was complicated, contentious, and complex. It restored self-government to Northern Ireland on the basis of "power sharing" with Britain, and it included acceptance of the principle of consent, commitment to civil and political rights, cultural parity of esteem, police reform, paramilitary disarmament and early release of paramilitary prisoners, followed by demilitarization.

The talks were chaired by U.S. Special Envoy George Mitchell who was instrumental in the development, finalization and passage of the agreement and its success in implementation and impact on eliminating the most recent violence called "The Troubles" which had raged and led to hundreds of brutal deaths since the 1960s.

Another motivation for passing this resolution is that our legislature was one of the earliest members of the American Irish Legislators Caucus, having leadership and membership in place before the Caucus became recognized as a group by the National Conference of State Legislators in 2021. The group was founded by the head of the Irish Senate, Mark Daly, a young, dynamic and amazing leader. He requested a similar resolution last year but settled for a St. Patrick's Day Proclamation by Governor Burgum since we were not session. The Governor also agreed to be pictured with the Irish flag mentioned in the resolution, and both were forwarded to Leader Daly for inclusion in his Caucus newsletter.

Senator Daly is determined to cement a more long term and lasting Irish peace by enlisting the help of legislators in all 50 states. He believes a little pressure from the 50-state resolution request, relying on the longtime American-Irish bonds, will be valued by his countrymen, and may help keep the Agreement preserved. It's a small ask, and it might just work.

I hope the Committee will pass Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4015.