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10/17/03
Date

2003 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2200

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2200

Senate Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 01-20-03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0 - 12.8
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Andrea Johnson</i>			

Minutes: Chairman Freborg called the committee to order. Roll Call was taken with all (6) members present.

CHAIRMAN FREBORG opened the hearing on SB 2200 relating to the student financial assistance and scholars programs.

Testimony in support of SB 2200:

SENATOR HOLMBERG, Dist. 17, presented testimony. (see attached).

All the schools in the state are involved in this scholarship program.

SENATOR CHRISTENSON asked why the scholarship was offered to the larger school student in the first place. SENATOR HOLMBERG replied that this was done in 1987 when the ACT scores were more disproportionate than now. (example: Many students then had composite scores in the low to higher 20's, and very few were in the 30's. Now, it is common for the composite score to be in the 30's, and by rounding up or down, it is not entirely accurate. Now, the state is winding up with far too many ties.).

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Page 2
Senate Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2200
Hearing Date 01-20-03

SENATOR FLAKOLL asked why the total numeric score isn't the only score used. SENATOR HOLMBERG said that is because of the way the scores are figured. Typically, there are one or two 36 scores, maybe one or two 35 scores, a couple 34 scores, and then quite a few 33 - 30 scores. This is where the problem comes about in determining which students in the 33 - 30 scores would be eligible.

SENATOR G. LEE, Dist 22, testified. (see attached). This will be a more objective way to make a fairer decision on the candidates who will receive the scholarships.

REPRESENTATIVE MONSON, Dist. 10, offers his support for this bill, not only as a legislator but also as an educator of K - 12. He feels this is one way the system can take care of the students as they go on to higher education.

There was no opposition to SB 2200.

CHAIRMAN FREBORG closed the hearing on SB 2200.

SENATOR FLAKOLL still feels this bill could be accomplished using only the numeric scores.

This would have made it more straightforward and cleaner.

Senator Taylor moved a DO PASS. Seconded by Senator Christenson.

Roll Call Vote: 6 YES. 0 NO. 0 Absent. Motion Carried.

Carrier: Senator G. Lee

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Date: 1/20/03
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2200

Senate EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Sen Taylor Seconded By Sen Christensen

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
LAYTON FREBORG, CHAIR.	✓		LINDA CHRISTENSON	✓	
GARY A. LEE, V. CHAIR.	✓		RYAN M. TAYLOR	✓	
DWIGHT COOK	✓				
TIM FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. G. Lee

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

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10/17/03
Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 20, 2003 12:48 p.m.

Module No: SR-10-0764
Carrier: G. Lee
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2200: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2200 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-10-0764

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01/17/03
Date

2003 HOUSE EDUCATION

SB 2200

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10/17/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2200
House Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 12, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2			3300-5420
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Linda Griechner</i>			

Chairman Kelsch opened the hearing on SB 2200.

Sen. Ray Holmberg, District 17, See Attached Testimony

Rep. Hawken: The only thing that this is based on is the ACT

Holmberg: ACT is the primary, it also has the class rank and gpa.

Rep. Sitte Have you ever considered adding a national merit semi finalist or finalist.

Holmberg: Not to this particular program. It is a different process using the PACT and the SAT.

This is based on our state system because this is where we want out kids to go, requires and strongly encourages kids to take the ACT.

Rep. Sitte What is the average ACT score is it 32

Holmberg: No I can't recall, what happens is it varies upon the number of students that are getting the high scores. 36 is perfect. some years it goes as low as 28/29.

Rep. Herbel Class rank and gpa do you use as criteria is that be a fairness issue.

Holmberg: It can be, It depends on how the grades were given out. The program was instituted in 1987, for better or for worse, they relied on ACT as the primary ranking.

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Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date

Page 2

House Education Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB 2200

Hearing Date March 12, 2003

Chairman Kelsch My son always says he took difficult courses and did not try to pad his gpa, but yet he scored a 33 on the ACT

Rep. Herbel Over the years of teaching I have seen the kids that were ranked at the top of their class but when I looked at the background, the course work was very easy. It is somewhat of an unfair measure.

Rep. Jon Nelson Acceptance rate of 41% of these scholarships

Holmberg: There were 100 offers but only 41 accepted to go to ND schools, all the rest went out of state. We have moved our date up because there are a lot of out of state universities who are trying to recruit our best and brightest out of the state.

Rep. Mueller, District 24

It is about fairness, 158 class B schools are on equal footing with the 12 Class A, in this particular realm

Closed hearing

Rep. Mueller moved a DO PASS, **Rep. Meier** seconded the motion,

Roll vote 12-0-2, **Rep. Mueller** will carry the bill to the floor.

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10/17/03
Date

Date: 3/12/03
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. ~~2205~~ 2200

House HOUSE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Mueller Seconded By Meier

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Kelsch	✓				
Rep. Johnson	✓				
Rep. Nelson	✓				
Rep. Haas	✓				
Rep. Hawken	✓				
Rep. Herbel	✓				
Rep. Meier	✓				
Rep. Norland	✓				
Rep. Sitte	✓				
Rep. Hanson	AB				
Rep. Hunsakor	✓				
Rep. Mueller	✓				
Rep. Solberg	AB				
Rep. Williams	✓				

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Mueller

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

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Deanne Hall 10/17/03
Operator's Signature Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 13, 2003 9:08 a.m.

Module No: HR-45-4640
Carrier: Mueller
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SB 2200: Education Committee (Rep. R. Kelsch, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS**
(12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2200 was placed on the
Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-45-4640

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10/17/03
Date

2003 TESTIMONY

SB 2200

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Deanne Halliwell
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01/17/03
Date

SB 2200

Senate Education Committee

January 20, 2003

Senator Freeborg, Chairman

Senator Holmberg

SB 2200

The North Dakota Scholars Program, a merit-based scholarship, was first funded by the Legislature in 1987 to provide scholarships to North Dakota's best and brightest high school graduates to encourage them to remain in North Dakota to obtain their post secondary education.

In football, size matters. However, size should not matter when it comes to the state awarding scholarships to it's high school graduates.

Let me give you an illustrative true story about rw and rh.

RW, senior in small high school, valedictorian of his class, 4.0 GPA. Received a 32 on his ACT.

He is under consideration for the North Dakota Scholars Program.

RH, senior in large high school, valedictorian of his class, 4.0 GPA. Received a 32 on his ACT.

Also is under consideration for the North Dakota Scholars Program.

As happens every year, the amount of money is the determining factor in how many scholarships are awarded. And as happens every year, there are ties...and they must be broken. For this RW - RH example, the state has only enough money left for one scholarship.

RH gets it, because the current law provides that other things being equal, a student from the larger high school will beat out the student from the smaller school... In this case.....size matters.

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10/17/03
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Current law uses the composite score on the American College Test...ACT.

The composite score is the average of the individual scores on the each of the 4 parts of the test. English, Math, Reading, and Science Reasoning.

lets go back to RH and RW.

RW received scores of 32, 32, 32, 33 on the test... average 32.25... rounded down to 32

RH received scores of 31, 30, 32, 33 on the test... average 31.5...rounded up to 32

Under current law rh gets scholarship because his high school graduating class is larger

Over the past year we have worked with the ACT corporation on changes which would move us away from the size issue. Under 2200, ACT will supply the state with not only the composite scores, but also the numeric sum of scores on the four sections of the ACT. This should eliminate most, if not all of our reliance on class size.

Back to our example. SB 2200 was introduced to refine the selection process for this program, to reduce the influence of size in the selection process and increase objectivity.

RW's numeric score adds up to a total of 129, while RH's is 126. Under SB 2200, RW, with a higher actual score on the ACT is awarded the scholarship.

This isn't the most profound bill of the session, but it is one which clearly demonstrates that the legislature wants our students to compete for the North Dakota scholarship, without regards to the size of their high school graduating class.

Ray Holmberg

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Deanna Nellis
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10/17/03
Date

Access - General

December 2002

North Dakota Scholars Program

The North Dakota Scholars Program, a merit-based scholarship, was first funded by the Legislature in 1987 to provide scholarships to North Dakota's best and brightest high school graduates to encourage them to remain in North Dakota to obtain their postsecondary education.

- High school seniors must score at the 95 percentile or greater of all North Dakota ACT test takers and must also be in the upper 20 percent of their high school graduating class at the end of their junior year in order to be eligible for the scholarship.
- The scholarship is renewable for up to three years provided the recipient maintains a cumulative 3.50 grade point average.
- The scholarship is a full tuition scholarship for students attending North Dakota's public and tribal colleges and a tuition scholarship equal to North Dakota State University and the University of North Dakota's tuition for students attending North Dakota's private institutions.

	1997-98	1998-99*	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
# of candidates meeting 5% ACT requirement	671	455	455	413	505	548
# of candidates also meeting high school rank requirement	507	387	376	347	403	427
Offers made	120	112	87	62	107	113
Offers accepted	55	49	39	25	49	46
% of those offered and accepted	46%	44%	44%	40%	46%	41%

* The number of students meeting both the ACT and class rank requirements for the ND Scholars Program is considerably less for 1998-99 compared to 1997-98. This reduction is due, in part, to a 1997 statute change which eliminated including the December ACT Test Data as part of the initial scholars consideration pool and has allowed for Scholars offers to be made in February versus April.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peggy Wipf, Director of Financial Aid and Federal Relations Coordinator
701.328.4114 Peggy.Wipf@ndus.nodak.edu

www.ndus.nodak.edu

Section 8 -- Page 4

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North Dakota Scholars Program (cont.)

- The North Dakota University System had sufficient funding to support the following number of North Dakota Scholars by class, by year.

North Dakota Scholars by class, by year						
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Freshmen	55	49	39	25	48	46
Sophomores	24	48	42	33	21.5	42
Juniors	12	22	44	40	28	22
Seniors	49	12	22	40	39.5	29
Total	144	131	147	138	137	139

- North Dakota students who qualify for this program are high academic achievers. These students are heavily recruited by out-of-state colleges and universities, who also offer financial incentives in order to attract them to their campus. This is demonstrated by the fact that in 2002-2003 in order to fund 46 new freshmen students, 113 offers were made, an acceptance rate of 41 percent. The other 67 students more than likely attended another out-of-state institution.

MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peggy Wipf, Director of Financial Aid and Federal Relations Coordinator
701.328.4114 Peggy.Wipf@ndus.nodak.edu

www.ndus.nodak.edu

Section 8 - Page 4.1

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Date

January 20, 2003

SB 2200

Chairman Freborg and members of the Education Committee, for the record, I am Gary A. Lee, State Senator from District 22. I'm speaking in support of SB 2200.

SB 2200 - seeks to improve the criteria used to determine the recipients of Scholarships given under the ND Scholars program.

The ND Scholars Program, a merit-based scholarship, was first funded by the Legislature in 1987 to provide scholarships to North Dakota's best & brightest high school graduates as an incentive for them to obtain their college degree in ND.

The scholarship is a full tuition scholarship for students attending ND's public & tribal colleges & a tuition scholarship equal to NDSU & UND's tuition for students attending ND's private institutions.

Currently, eligible candidates are ranked by their composite score on the ACT exam. If two or more students have the same score they are then ranked by their high school class rank calculated on a percentile basis.

The composite score is the average of the four content areas tested, rounded to the nearest whole number. This rounding of scores gives many students the exact same composite score. Making it difficult to determine the candidate that best meets the criteria.

SB 2200 - adds a more precise formula to screen applicants. When two or more students have the same composite score the sum total of the four content area scores will be used to rank the applicants. This provides a more exact number than the average of those content areas thereby, making the selection process more objective.

Thank you, and I encourage your endorsement of this bill.

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