

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2222

2005 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2222

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2222

Senate Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 1/25/05

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	x		0-5300
3		x	2385-2482
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Patty Wilkins</i>			

Minutes: Relating to the commencement of the elementary and secondary school year and to provide an effective date.

Senator Layton Freborg, Chairman called the meeting to order on SB 2222

Testimony in support of the bill:

Chairman Freborg opens hearing on SB 2222

Senator Thane .Sponsor of the bill. He talked about how important that last weekend of August is to families and how sometimes the weather is too hot to hold school.

Jim Fueglie .Chairman of **ND Tourism Alliance** .

See written testimony in favor of delaying school start date.

Randy Hatzenbuehler .President of the **Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation**.

See written testimony in favor of delaying school start till after Labor Day.

Senator Flakoll .Asked when the time would be made up.

Fueglie .Thought there could be shorter breaks.

Bill Shalhoob .ND Hospitality Association . Appearing in support of this bill.

See written testimony.

David Borlaug .President of the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation . In favor of this bill.

See written testimony.

Terri Thiel .Executive Director of the Dickinson Convention & Visitors Bureau . In favor of this bill.

See written testimony.

Judy Schnell .Elementary School Teacher .Dickinson . Did not appear but submitted written testimony.

Dana Bohn .Lobbyist for the **Greater ND Chamber of Commerce** . In favor of this bill.

See written testimony and handout.

Sara Otte Coleman .Director of the ND Dept. Of Commerce .**Tourism Division** . Urged the support of this bill.

See written testimony.

Senator Flakoll .Asked if it's the fastest growing industry why they are claiming hardship.

Coleman . Research shows how fast its growing and the demand is there. They need to continue to offer the quality experience.

Senator Lee .Asked about the local school board in terms of this issue.

Coleman .Said she has talked to the president of the Bismarck school board and at this point they have remained neutral on it.

Tracy Potter .Executive Director **Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation** . In favor of this bill.

See written testimony.

(meter #3500)

Testimony in opposition:

Bev Nielsen .Not in favor of this bill. Teachers are on contract for 192 days. They can not break those contracts. Professional development is increasingly more important plus in-service for the teachers. Plus with No Child Left Behind is requires more testing. They maintain children are less educable at the end of May than in August.

Senator Taylor .Asked if school boards would have approved this bill before no child left behind.

Nielsen .Said they would never approve to having anyone making decisions about the school calendar other than the local communities. The minimum that the law requires is not enough in the future because of testing dates and professional development days.

Mary Wahl .ND Council of Educational Leaders .Not in favor of. Said the reason that swayed her into believing it should start before labor day because of a teacher's statement to her, saying kids have spring fever so it is better to start earlier, they will learn more.

Senator Seymour .Asked if other states who start later are learning less than ND students.

Wahl .Said she has no way of knowing.

Senator Flakoll .Asked how this reconciles with starting dates in higher education.

Wahl - Said when higher starts is not related to this bill.

Dean Bard .ND Small Organized Schools .They said school starts is best left to local control. He said they are looking to add on school days because of No Child Left Behind. **(meter #5300)**

Senator Freborg, Closed the hearing on 5B2222.

Page 4
Senate Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2222
Hearing Date January 25, 2005

The meeting was adjourned.

There was a little more discussion on this SB 2222.

Senator Flakoll : Quickly gave a hand out from Dirk, not all institutions are on here, but this is when they start school in the Fall. Which may alter the start date, from the standpoint of parents may have one child in grade school and one in high school and one in an institution. Thinking about if they would all like to go on the same fun bus to Wally World. That is all I have.

The meeting was adjourned.

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2222

Senate Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 01/26/05

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		x	4522-5050
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Patty Wilkins</i>			

Minutes: Relating to the commencement of the elementary and secondary school year and to provide an effective date.

More discussion on SB 2222

Senator Seymour : I like the change in the school year, they want to promote economic development. I like that idea.

Senator Erbele : I think that we are dealing with two different industries, I understand the tourism part of it although I love the ideas they have. I just don't think that we should dictate what day the school should start, I know that this is an educational issue and not a scheduling issue. If you are ready for a motion I will make one.

Senator Erbele, Made a motion for a Do Not Pass on **SB 2222**

Seconded By, **Senator Flakoll**

further discussion

Page 2
Senate Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2222
Hearing Date 01/26/05

Senator Flakoll : There are points on both sides that are good, harvest in fall and planting in spring. We had problems both ways, from an economic standpoint, we could shorten the calendar by 7 days.

Senator Freborg : What did you just tell us.

Senator Flakoll : From economic having school 7 days shorter I don't believe this is in the best interest of their education.

There being no other discussion roll call vote was taken. vote: 3 yea- 2 nay- 1 absent

Senator Erbele, will carry the bill.

The meeting was adjourned.

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2222

Senate Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 02/02/05

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		x	3535-3630
Committee Clerk Signature			

Minutes: Relating to the commencement of the elementary and secondary school year and to provide an effective date.

Senator Freborg : Call the meeting to order on **SB 2222**

Senator Flakoll : Moved that we reconsider our actions for which we passed out SB 2222 out of committee

Senator Erbele second the motion.

Hearing no other discussion roll call was taken, reconsideration of SB 2222, vote: 6-0-0

No further discussion

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2222

Senate Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 02/07/05

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	x		690-1740
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Patty Wilkens</i>			

Minutes: Relating to the commencement of the elementary and secondary school year and to provide an effective date.

Senator Freborg : Call the meeting to ordure on **SB 2222**

Senator Taylor : I handed out the amendments and initially they had been drawn up by council, and after speaking with some proponents of the bill trying to gain some more support for this bill. Initially it was going to be the Wednesday before, 5 calendar days before Labor Day, but was asked to look at the amendments before you now, which is the Monday before Labor Day, 5 school days. This will put us similar to where the calendar is now. Would like to prevent any further erosion of the Fall season for tourism. This would give us a couple more days.

Senator Taylor moved the motion to accept the amendments before the committee.

Senator Flakoll second the motion.

Senator Flakoll asking what is the latest we can start.

Senator Taylor: the earliest Labor Day would be the second of Sept. so the earliest of school start date would be the 25th.

Senator Flakoll : This doesn't directly say anything about Labor Day does it?

Senator Taylor : You are right, if Labor Day would be the 1st of Sept. earliest start date could be Aug. 24 th.

Senator Flakoll : Would the latest be Aug. 30th?

Senator Freborg : The motion is to adopt the Taylor amendment to SB 2222

No further discussion.

Hearing no further discussion roll call was taken: vote- 6-0-0

Senator Taylor : Made a motion for a **Do Pass** as amended on **SB 2222**

Senator Seymour, second the motion
discussion?

Senator Flakoll : I have something to pass out, did a chart on harvest schedule. Explained to the committee. I am not sure that this is always a viable justification for moving date back. On one end they gain and on the other they lose.

Senator Freborg : according to your handout they should start school Nov. 12 th and end April 15th.

Senator Taylor : I am not sure that I can totally agree with this, I would like to see that we could help the tourism bring a few \$'s in and I don't believe this would hurt the education of the students.

Hearing no further discussion, roll call was taken: **vote 2-4-0**

Senator Flakoll : Moved a **Do Not Pass** to **SB 2222**

Page 3
Senate Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2222
Hearing Date 02/07/05

Senator G. Lee, second this motion

No discussion

Hearing none roll call was taken : **vote 4-2-0**

Senator Erbele will carry this bill

Senator Freborg : are you ready for this bill right away?

Senator Erbele : yes.

Senator Freborg : I think we will put this in, if you need help Senator Flakoll will help.

Date: 1/26/05
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass-

Motion Made By Sen Erbele Seconded By Sen Flakoll

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG		✓	SENATOR SEYMOUR		✓
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE	✓		SENATOR TAYLOR		
SENATOR ERBELE	✓				
SENATOR FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 3 No 2

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Erbele

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 26, 2005 12:33 p.m.

Module No: SR-17-1085
Carrier: Erbele
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2222: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS
(3 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2222 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

Date: 1/31/05
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Reconsideration -

Motion Made By Sen Taylor - Seconded By Sen Seymour -

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG	✓		SENATOR SEYMOUR	✓	
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE	✓		SENATOR TAYLOR	✓	
SENATOR ERBELE		✓			
SENATOR FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

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

Date: 1/31/05
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass

Motion Made By Flakoll Seconded By erb.

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG		✓	SENATOR SEYMOUR		✓
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE	✓		SENATOR TAYLOR		✓
SENATOR ERBELE	✓				
SENATOR FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 3 No 3

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Failed

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

Date: 11/31/15

Roll Call Vote #: 3

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Taylor Seconded By Seymour

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG	✓		SENATOR SEYMOUR	✓	
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE		✓	SENATOR TAYLOR	✓	
SENATOR ERBELE		✓			
SENATOR FLAKOLL		✓			

Total (Yes) 3 No 3

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

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

Date: 1/31/05
Roll Call Vote #: 4

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken more without committee recommendation - WCR

Motion Made By Flakoll Seconded By Emb.

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG	✓		SENATOR SEYMOUR		✓
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE	✓		SENATOR TAYLOR	✓	
SENATOR ERBELE	✓				
SENATOR FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 1

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Sen Erbele

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 31, 2005 4:41 p.m.

Module No: SR-20-1496
Carrier: Erbele
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2222: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends BE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION (5 YEAS, 1 NAY, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2222 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

Date: 2/2/05
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken reconsider-action

Motion Made By Sen. Flakoll Seconded By Sen. Erbele

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG	✓		SENATOR SEYMOUR	✓	
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE	✓		SENATOR TAYLOR	✓	
SENATOR ERBELE	✓				
SENATOR FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2222

Page 1, line 19, replace "first Tuesday after" with "Monday before"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 2/7/05
Roll Call Vote #: /

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222-

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Taylor Amendment

Motion Made By Sen Taylor - Seconded By Sen. Flakoll

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG	✓		SENATOR SEYMOUR	✓	
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE	✓		SENATOR TAYLOR	✓	
SENATOR ERBELE	✓				
SENATOR FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

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

Date: 2/7/05
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass as amended

Motion Made By Sen. Taylor Seconded By Sen. Seymour

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG	✓		SENATOR SEYMOUR	✓	✓
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE		✓	SENATOR TAYLOR	✓	
SENATOR ERBELE		✓			
SENATOR FLAKOLL		✓			

Total (Yes) 2 No 4

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

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

Date: 2/7/05
Roll Call Vote #: 3

2005 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2222

Senate SENATE EDUCATION Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass as amended.

Motion Made By Sen. Flakoll Seconded By Lee

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
CH- SENATOR FREBORG		✓	SENATOR SEYMOUR	✓	✓
V-CH- SENATOR G. LEE	✓		SENATOR TAYLOR		✓
SENATOR ERBELE	✓				
SENATOR FLAKOLL	✓				

Total (Yes) 4 No 2

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Erbele

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

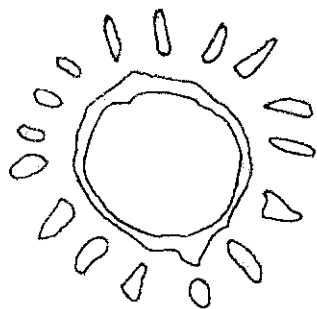
SB 2222: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO NOT PASS** (4 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2222 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 19, replace "first Tuesday after" with "Monday before"

Renumber accordingly

2005 TESTIMONY

SB 2222



Save Summers for Families



VOTE YES ON LATER SCHOOL START DATES

SB 2222

Of North Dakota's four seasons, summer is when people most enjoy their time outdoors. Summer brings the most tourists to the state. And it is the only time when many families are able to be together.

Because the temperatures are warmer in late summer, July and August are the most popular time for tourism and family gatherings. That is why starting school in August, before Labor Day, cuts short time that should be enjoyed by families.

SB 2222 establishes the beginning of the public elementary and secondary school calendar as no sooner than the first Tuesday after Labor Day. Here are several reasons why it should be passed:

Pro Economy

- In North Dakota's tourism industry, a day in May or June is not worth a day in August, as differences in dollars earned and visitor attendance show. Delaying school start days would lengthen the tourism industry's peak season.
 - North Dakota farms and businesses depend upon the availability of school-age employees through Labor Day weekend. By working until Labor Day, students can earn two more weeks of pay, and employers wouldn't need to scramble to find workers during the last weeks in August.
- As the second-largest industry in the state, North Dakota tourism generates significant dollars for the General Fund.

Pro Education

- Education directly benefits from the tourism industry's economic impact, through receiving dollars contributed to the General Fund by tourism.
- School calendars starting after Labor Day do not necessarily result in an undesirable school year schedule. With careful planning, school districts will be able to fulfill their legal requirements for 180 days of school and still end before Memorial Day.
- Local control of school start dates is a myth. Instead, the sports season scheduled by the North Dakota High School Activities Association influences how school boards set their calendars.

Pro Family

- North Dakota climates favor recreation toward the end of the summer, not in early June. The last few weeks in August and Labor Day weekend are one last opportunity for families to vacation or spend quality time together. Many states recognize this and start their schools after Labor Day.

Pro Rural North Dakota

- Farm families will benefit if kids could help with harvest, instead of going to school in the middle of August.
- Many rural school districts are pooling their resources through Joint Power Agreements. Sharing administrative services and funds would be enhanced through a uniform school start date.

THE NORTH DAKOTA TOURISM ALLIANCE PARTNERSHIP URGES YOUR

Support of SB 2222

IT'S GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY, TOURISM INDUSTRY
AND NORTH DAKOTA FAMILIES!!!

42

Testimony of Randy Hatzenbuehler
Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation President
Senate Bill 2222
January 25, 2005

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

I am Randy Hatzenbuehler, president of the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation. Please support this bill that would have school begin the day after Labor Day.

This bill is clearly good for the tourism industry. The numbers are dramatic and I will share a summary of them in a moment.

I have worked in Medora for the last 17 years. Tourism is enjoying the spotlight much more today than at anytime before. It is a growth industry that has rightly gained important support from you as legislators during recent sessions. Those of us who work in tourism thank you and people like Jim Fuglie and my predecessor, Rod Tjaden who worked tirelessly to build an industry for this state. I recall Rod's optimism on this same school opening subject, even after defeat. He would simply say "our time hasn't come yet, but it will".

This bill is seen as tourism bill. Ironically, it is has been introduced in part because of a conversation I had last August at the Pitchfork Fondue in Medora. A man from Wahpeton asked me how our business was doing; assuming that the coolest summer on record must have wreaked havoc on tourism in 2004. He told me he was a small business owner from Wahpeton with about 10 employees and that summers are terrible for him. I asked him why. He said most of his employees have children in school and that none of them want to take their vacation in June and because school activities begin in early and mid August; everyone wants the same time off. It is a real challenge for him to keep his shop running because North Dakota summers have been reduced to a four week period in July!

SB 2222 is clearly good for tourism. Less obvious, but just as certain, it is good for the overall business climate of North Dakota. A strong North Dakota economy is good for everyone.

Dana Bohn from the Tourism Alliance Partnership (TAP) called me to find out if we could measure the impact of school opening in August. That is easy. I could just give you the daily numbers from every important aspect of our business and you would be able to tell me exactly when school starts. Room nights, attendance at the Medora Musical, meals served, wages earned, and the number of employees remaining to serve the traveling public all sink as soon as schools open and high school activities begin. The Tourism Alliance Partnership surveyed the industry. Here are the compiled numbers for the 10 attractions that responded to the survey on a weekly basis: in 2003 there was a 55% drop in business between week four in August and week one in September. In 2004 there was a 36% drop between the third week in August and the fourth week in August. Overall a week in August is 2.5 times more valuable than a week in May.

This week it was 54 degrees in Medora. Sometimes that happens - you catch some beautiful days, even in January. But it is not the norm. The tragedy of beginning school during the month of August, is that it doesn't take advantage of one of the best things about living in North Dakota. The climate from mid-August through early September is as good in North Dakota as it is anywhere in the country. That is the norm. It should be "prime time" for North Dakota families and travelers. Right when it is the best to showcase North Dakota, entertain visitors and enjoy it for ourselves, we turn it off. You can change that.

I am either cursed or blessed to be a "numbers" person. Over time the numbers tell a story. Much of my time is spent fundraising. I recall Harold Schafer sending personal, hand-written thank you notes for \$5 donations received the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation. Today, I do cartwheels (and send thank you notes) for annual membership gifts of \$250. I did conservative, simple math on what the impact would have been, had school started after Labor Day during the years that I have worked in Medora. A \$3 million dollar renovation of the Burning Hills Amphitheatre could have been built without any donations.

Rod Tjaden was right to be optimistic about the future of tourism in North Dakota. Its time has come and so to has the time to pass SB 2222.

Randy Hatzenbuehler

83
ND Hospitality Assn. Testimony
Senate Education Committee
SB 2222

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Bill Shalhoob and I represent the ND Hospitality Assn. We are appearing today in support of SB 2222.

Our members businesses and sales fluctuate each year due to many influences beyond our control such as the general economy, weather and the number of trips that are planned annually to North Dakota. One of the biggest factors each year is the school opening date which SB 2222 addresses. I can speak from my own experience as the managing partner of the Select Inn Bismarck. This past fall school started as early as August 23rd. Summer and specifically the traditional family vacation period from mid to late June to Labor Day is our best sales period. Last year our occupancy was over 80% until August 20th and under 50% after school started. For us this meant a difference of \$15,000.00 in our sales for the year, a meaningful amount for a small North Dakota business who is asked to pay property taxes totaling over \$37,000.00 and a school distribution of \$20,683.12 to the entities whose policies hurt us when we are trying to generate the profits necessary to make our tax payments. If we fail to make a profit the property tax is still due from our own or separate resources. Many of our members have experience similar to mine and the total effect around the state for income and sales taxes is substantial.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we believe SB 2222 is a reasonable compromise to our present system and would urge your support. I would be happy to answer any questions.



**Testimony of David Borlaug, President
Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation**

**In support of SB 2222, Senate Education Committee
Tuesday, January 25, 2005**

Mister Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is David Borlaug, and I am President of the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation, which operates both Fort Mandan and the North Dakota Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center at Washburn.

SB 2222 will greatly enhance our opportunities to attract more visitors to our sites, and North Dakota in general, by expanding the "true" summer season. As any school-age parent will attest, the summer ends when football and volleyball practices start in early August. And every operator of a tourist facility in North Dakota will tell you the same thing, as the number of visitors, and the staff to serve them, drops dramatically in August.

You've heard the reasons why this is so detrimental to our state's tourism economy, so let me give you the numbers as they relate to our attractions.

In 2004, we saw visitation increase by 68 percent from the first week in June to the last week of June, showing how the summer season doesn't really kick in until states around us finish their own school years in early June.

Conversely, we saw a drop of 34 percent in visitors from the first week of August to the third week.

Simply put, it's still summer in August, but it really hasn't started in early June. The heart of our visitation is from the second week of June to the second week of August. That's a two-month summer season in reality, and you can add to that short window of opportunity for our state's second largest industry by passing this bill.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 2222 and for recommending its approval by the full Senate.



January 25, 2005

Convention & Visitors Bureau

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Education Committee, my name is Terri Thiel and I am the Executive Director of the Dickinson Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The Dickinson Convention & Visitors Bureau supports SB 2222.

We are in favor of SB 2222 because it would add additional seasonal dates to many of the attractions in our state by providing a few more days on the calendar for families that are juggling a busy summer season. It would also provide additional employment days for workers from the secondary schools who are the many times the extra workers that are hired to accommodate the seasonal businesses. Obviously, business, vacations and employment are all intertwined with the school start dates.

Our visitor's center is quite often the first point of contact for travelers who stop off of Interstate 94 when entering Dickinson. Repeatedly we are faced visitors who express frustration because some regional attractions are scaled back in services by the end of August. We explain to them it is because many of the seasonal workers, who are in High School, have left due to the school start dates.

For our own employment at the Convention & Visitors Bureau, when hiring high school students as our front line greeters, our own staff is faced with additional duties when the student leaves our employment early because of early school start dates. Consequently, we tend to look for other types of applicants that can fulfill the season until after Labor Day, thus turning away student applicants, who might otherwise be employed full time during our summer season.

The Dickinson Convention & Visitors Bureau supports legislation to extend the school start dates for the elementary and secondary school year, **please support SB 2222.**

Sincerely,

Terri Thiel
Executive Director

#6
January 25, 2005


Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Education Committee, my name is Judi Schnell. I have been an elementary teacher for twenty years and am currently teaching in an elementary school in Dickinson, North Dakota. I am writing to encourage the passing of Senate Bill 2222.

I am one of many educators that would like to see the beginning of the public elementary and secondary school year start no sooner than the first Tuesday after Labor Day. There's no doubt about it that many students and teachers are ready to end the school year around the end of May. The days are getting longer and the weather is attempting to warm. Spring is in the air. However, over the course of the last ten years or so, North Dakota's cool, rainy, and lower than average spring-type temperatures have not been conducive to outdoor recreation. On the other hand, temperatures in August tend to be very warm and the weather offers numerous opportunities for summer activities in our state. I feel the weather outdoors often times is a good indicator of the productivity of teachers and students alike. Unseasonably cool and rainy weather, as we continue to experience here in North Dakota during May, lends itself perfectly to indoor activities and spending time in school. Returning to school in mid August when temperatures are seasonably warm and pleasant and spending time outdoors is foremost in many students' and teachers' minds is not optimum for learning conditions. We, North Dakotans, spend the majority of our lives indoors because of the weather. Young and old alike can make the most of our North Dakota summers by embracing our great outdoors throughout the entire summer months.

The issue of athletics comes to mind when discussing this bill. Even if athletic events started before the school year proposed in this bill, it would be no different than what now exists with several state tournaments occurring after the school year is over. Either way, some athletic events would take place during a time when school is not officially in session.

I support legislation to extend the school start dates for the elementary and secondary school year. Please support SB 2222.

Sincerely,


Judi Schnell - Dickinson, ND

#7



**Testimony of Dana Bohn
Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce
Presented to the
Senate Education Committee
January 25, 2005**

HB 2222

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Education Committee. My name is Dana Bohn and I'm a member and a lobbyist for the Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce. I am here today representing State Chamber in place of President Dave MacIver. The State Chamber urges you to **support SB 2222**.

One of the main efforts of the State Chamber during the past four years has been the New Economy Initiative (NEI), which is an effort to identify and focus economic efforts on the industries with the greatest potential for growth in the new economy. NEI research conducted by Standard & Poor's DRI, one of the worlds largest economic forecasting companies, identified tourism as one of the industries with the greatest growth potential in North Dakota. Tourism is also one of the target industries identified in the North Dakota Economic Development Foundation's Strategic Plan and also by the Governor.

According to the recent study released by the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics at North Dakota State University, expenditures by out-of-state visitors (including tourists) in 2002 was \$3.1 billion. According to F. Larry Leistritz, when these expenditures are applied to the NDSU input-output model, the estimated total economic impact to the state economy is \$6.9 billion (i.e., the \$3.1 billion of direct expenditures results in another \$3.8 billion in secondary or multiplier effects, for a total of \$6.9 billion). These levels of economic activity in various sectors of the state economy would result in about \$151.5 million in sales and use tax collections and \$22 million in increased personal income tax collections. NDSU's study also reveals that tourism is the second largest and the fastest growing industry in the North Dakota.

Just to illustrate the positive economic impacts this would have in North Dakota, we need only to look to the east to the state of Minnesota. According to Tom Day, the vice president of governmental affairs for Hospitality Minnesota, since the Labor Day start law went into effect, the impact to Minnesota's economy has been well over three-quarters of a billion dollars. Without question, the law greatly lengthened the tourism season statewide, which previously ended in mid-August.

The State Chamber supports the continued new wealth creation that tourism provides to the state and it supports SB 2222 for the following reasons:

- ✓ It will be a stimulus for the tourism sector to grow by extending its season;
- ✓ The growth in the tourism sector will increase general fund revenue;
- ✓ It will provide added financial support for education and other general fund needs.

The North Dakota Chamber supports legislation that enhances business and encourages you to give this bill a "DO PASS" recommendation.

Testimony of Dana Bohn in support of SB 2222.

18
Testimony of Sara Otte Coleman
North Dakota Department of Commerce – Tourism Division
Senate Bill 2222
January 25, 2005

Chairman Freborg and members of the committee, I am Sara Otte Coleman – The director of the Tourism Division for the ND Department of Commerce. I am here today urging your support of SB 2222.

Last August, as we were assessing tourism business for summer 2004 (or as we often refer to it “the summer that never was”), I was surprised by the number of fellow North Dakotans who made a point to talk to me and express their frustration with the fact the we finally had summer weather and the kids were going back to school. The boats, campers, jet skis and bikes that went unused most of the cool, wet summer were being put back into storage. Parents, Grandparents, teachers and businesspeople agreed. “This can’t be good for tourism... and this isn’t good for our family or our kids either. Can’t you get that changed? Summer is getting shorter and shorter!”

As tourism director, I know this makes sense. Tourism is the second largest and fastest growing industry in North Dakota. It employs over 20,200 North Dakotans, and many students. 2003 and 2004 visitation numbers at 10 of our major attractions around North Dakota show that a day in late August has 2.7 times more economic value compared to a day in late May. In 2003, visitation dropped 55% between the last week in August and the first week in September. In 2004, we measured a 36% drop in those same 10 attractions between the 3rd and 4th week of August and another 28% decline between the last week in August and the 1st week in September.

Our most recent in-depth travel research indicated that in 2001 we had 5.6 million overnight trips. These trips generated \$876 million dollars. These dollars were spent on accommodations, retail, food, transportation and recreation. 36% of these trips were North Dakotans – traveling in North Dakota. 25% are 35-44 years of age (parents of school age children). Although I don’t have a monthly breakdown, 24% of this travel took place between April and June, while 34% traveled between July and September.

Our 2003 advertising effectiveness research shows that our 2003 advertising campaign generated 63.2 million new dollars for North Dakota last summer and fall. Of the \$63.2 million, \$4 million went directly into the state coffers through increased taxes paid by visitors. Not bad for a \$775,000 investment. The Tourism Industry of America estimates that domestic travel spending in North Dakota generated \$66.5 million in state tax revenue during 2001. Waiting until after Labor Day to begin school helps tourism businesses, parks, attractions and entertainment venues keep their employees so they can stay open longer for in-state and out-of-state visitors alike. This will allow tourism to continue to raise more dollars not only for tourism proprietors but also for the state – to help fund critical needs like education.

Like most of you, I wear many hats.

As a parent I know this makes sense. My kids didn't have many swimming lessons this past summer, by the time the thermometer broke 60 degrees the life guards and staff had all left their summer jobs – school was starting.

As a farm-ranch wife I know this makes sense. In mid-August small grain harvest is seldom completed and we still have thousands of acres of corn and sunflowers to harvest and the kids are back in school.

I urge you to support SB 2222, there are few bills that cost the state nothing, yet could yield the state so much in return.



**FORT
ABRAHAM
LINCOLN
FOUNDATION**

401 West Main
Mandan, ND 58554
701-663-4758
Fax: 701-663-4751
E-mail: falf@tic.bisman.com
www.FortLincoln.com

**Testimony of Tracy Potter, Executive Director,
Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation, on SB 2222**

Mister Chairman, members of the Senate Education Committee, my colleagues have made a persuasive case in support of SB 2222. Here, by this vehicle, without taxing anyone, you can take a family-friendly action which will contribute to the bottom line not just for the tourism industry and the state's retail sector, but also for the state as a whole and specifically for the state's general fund. I won't reiterate all the positive arguments you've heard.

The concept I'd like you to consider is this: whatever our school calendar is, it should be more in sync with our neighbors, particularly those states and provinces from which we get most of our tourists. Manitoba starts school after Labour Day. Minnesota doesn't allow school to begin until September. With their 192 day school calendar, Manitoba kids are still in school well into June. This is one reason, besides the often cool weather of late May and early June, that our tourism season doesn't really kick off until mid-June. We're open, ready for business, and North Dakotans, unless their kids are in summer school, are able to travel ... but tourists from our major markets aren't. As a businessman, I'm the financial equivalent of "all dressed up with no where to go." We're open for business in May, but in a place like Fort Lincoln, where 70% of our visitors are from out-of-state, we're open for 30% of the market. Then in mid-August, we lose that 30%, and an even bigger percentage of our summer staff, as they head back to school. In the end, you see us trying to staff up for a hundred day tourism season, but the market is only fully there for sixty days. This is a real problem, and it has only grown as school start dates have crept earlier into August.

One last point, we've heard the arguments against this bill in the past. Well, really there's just one argument, delivered with the same tone as someone says "checkmate." The phrase is "local control."

If we were truly debating local control it would be an interesting debate. Should school districts have the ability to direct the curriculum - to choose to offer art classes in place of geometry? Should they be allowed to teach evolution or creationism as science? Should they be allowed to decide the punishment for a student leaving his shotgun in his vehicle so he can hunt on the way home? Should they be able to hold school on Good Friday, or Veteran's Day? Should they be allowed to give comp time to teachers for parent-teacher conferences without shutting down the school? Should they be able to decide for themselves whether or not to allow students to take an hour off a week for religious instruction?

These are not issues you leave to local control. You specify to the school boards what they must and must not do.

Passage of this bill will not take local control away from the school districts. As was pointed out, local control of the school calendar is a myth. Look across the state, there is very little variation in school start dates. The question is not, should school boards set the date, the question is, should the date be set by the North Dakota Legislature, or by the North Dakota High School Activities Association? I'd rather see you do it.



Administration:
1101 1st Ave N
P.O. Box 2064
Fargo, ND 58107
701-298-2200 • 1-800-367-9668
Fax: 701-298-2210

State Headquarters:
4023 State St
P.O. Box 2793
Bismarck, ND 58502
701-224-0330 • 1-800-932-8869
Fax: 701-224-9485

North Dakota Farm Bureau

www.ndfb.org

Senate Education Committee

January 25, 2005

SB 2222 Testimony by North Dakota Farm Bureau

presented by Sandy Clark, public policy team

Good morning, Chairman Freborg and members of the committee. My name is Sandy Clark and I represent the 27,500 members of North Dakota Farm Bureau.

Unfortunately, I have a conflicting hearing this morning and cannot appear before you this morning, but would like to submit this written testimony.

NDFB policy supports SB 2222. Many farmers and ranchers are still harvesting and hauling hay in late August. Agriculture has a shortage of farm labor and starting school after Labor Day would allow children of agricultural producers to help on the farm another week or two.

We also agree that North Dakota tourism would benefit from a final holiday weekend before school starts.

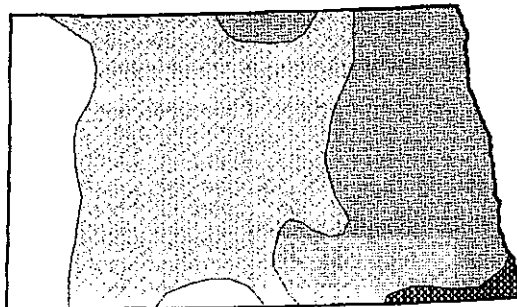
Therefore, North Dakota Farm Bureau urges a "do pass" recommendation on this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

GROWING SEASON AVERAGE

Sen. Tim Flakoll

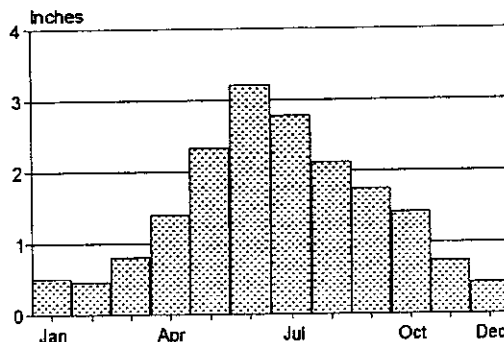
GROWING SEASON

Growing Season Precipitation
April-September, 1971-2000 Average

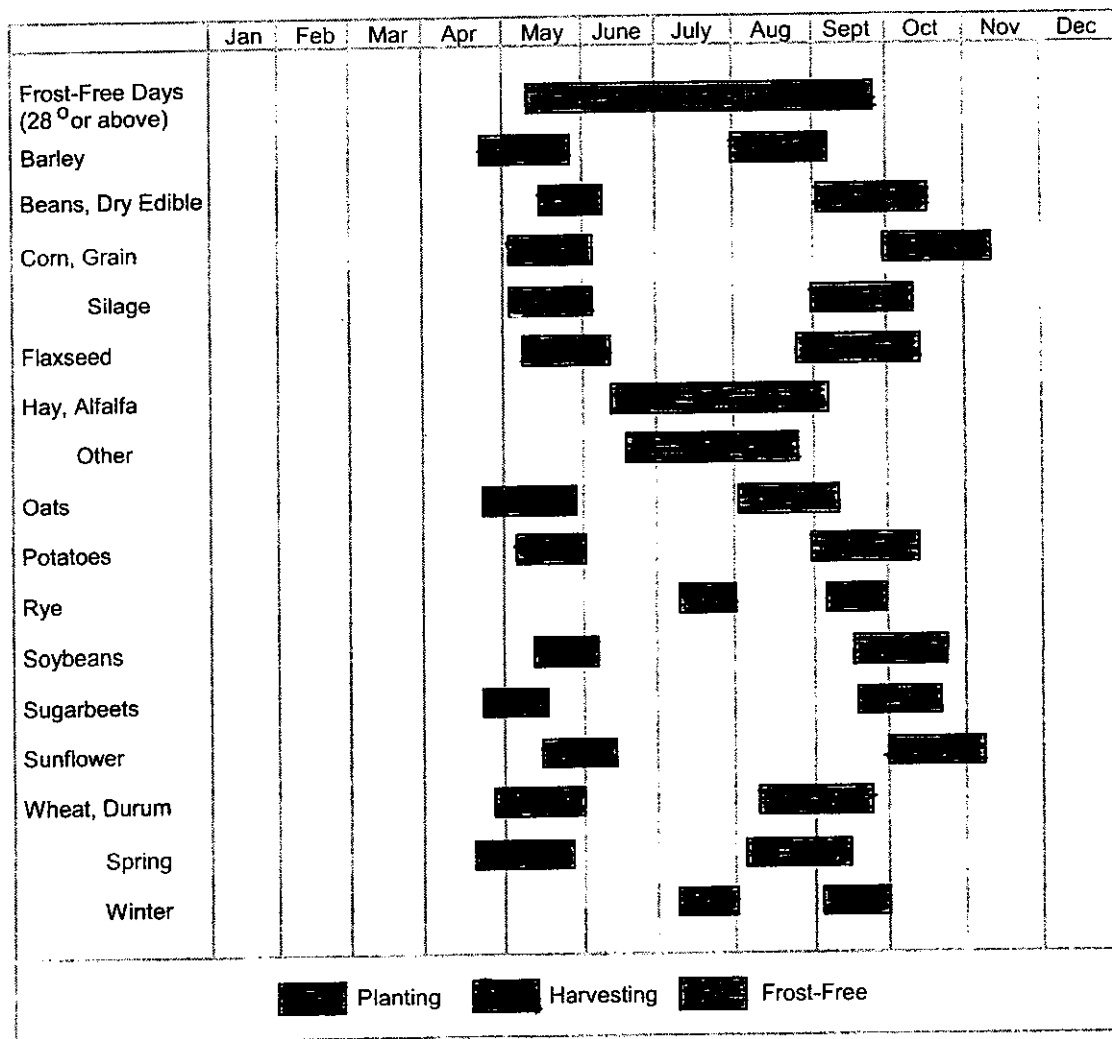


Less than 12.00 inches
 12.00 - 13.99 inches
 14.00 - 15.99 inches
 16.00 inches and over

Monthly Precipitation
North Dakota, 1971-2000 Average



USUAL PLANTING AND HARVESTING DATES, North Dakota



Source: Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates for US Field Crops, USDA/NASS, December 1997.

2222

Department of Public Instruction
 School Year 2004-2005
 1/21/2005

SystemCity	System	StartDate	EndDate
Fargo	Grace Lutheran Elem School	9/7/04	6/3/05
Fargo	Park Christian School	9/7/04	6/3/05
Fargo	YWCA Child Care Center	9/7/04	5/20/05
Marmarth	Marmarth 12	9/7/04	5/27/05
Wahpeton	Circle of Nations School	9/1/04	5/20/05
Williston	New 8	9/1/04	5/27/05
Williston	Williston 1	9/1/04	5/27/05
Amidon	Central Elem 32	8/31/04	5/23/05
Bottineau	Bottineau 1	8/31/04	5/27/05
Cartwright	Horse Creek 32	8/30/04	5/24/05
Enderlin	Enderlin 22	8/30/04	5/25/05
Fairview	Yellowstone 14	8/30/04	5/25/05
Fargo	Academy for Children	8/30/04	5/27/05
Fargo	Dakota Montessori School	8/30/04	5/24/05
Fargo	Small Wonders Kindergarten	8/30/04	5/26/05
Fort Ransom	Ft Ransom 6	8/30/04	5/27/05
Glenburn	School	8/30/04	5/27/05
Jamestown	Anne Carlsen Center for Children	8/30/04	5/27/05
Lisbon	Lisbon 19	8/30/04	5/27/05
Mandan	St Joseph Elem School	8/30/04	5/27/05
McKenzie Count	Bowline Butte 19	8/30/04	5/24/05
Minot	Dakota Memorial High School	8/30/04	5/26/05
Minot	Minot 1	8/30/04	5/26/05
Minot	Nedrose 4	8/30/04	5/26/05
Minot	Our Redeemers Christian School	8/30/04	5/27/05
Nash	Nash 51	8/30/04	5/27/05
Sheldon	Sheldon 2	8/30/04	5/25/05
Sidney	Earl 18	8/30/04	5/24/05
West Fargo	West Fargo 6	8/30/04	5/26/05
Williston	St Josephs Elem School	8/30/04	5/27/05
Wolford	Wolford 1	8/30/04	5/27/05
Minot	Bell 10	8/27/04	5/26/05
Baldwin	Baldwin 29	8/26/04	5/24/05
Beulah	Beulah 27	8/26/04	5/26/05
Bismarck	Bismarck 1	8/26/04	5/26/05
Bismarck	Immanuel Christian School	8/26/04	5/26/05
Bismarck	Missouri Valley Montessori	8/26/04	5/27/05
Bismarck	Shiloh Christian School	8/26/04	5/27/05
Cavalier	Cavalier 6	8/26/04	5/20/05
Drayton	Drayton 19	8/26/04	5/20/05
Edinburg	Edinburg 106	8/26/04	5/20/05
Fargo	Fargo 1	8/26/04	5/26/05
Fargo	Fargo Catholic Schools Network	8/26/04	5/26/05
Fargo	Oak Grove Lutheran School	8/26/04	5/26/05
Fordville	Fordville 79	8/26/04	5/26/05

SystemCity	System	StartDate	EndDate
Grafton	Grafton 3	8/26/04	5/26/05
Hazen	Hazen 3	8/26/04	5/26/05
Hoople	Valley 12	8/26/04	5/20/05
Inkster	Midway 128	8/26/04	5/26/05
Killdeer	Killdeer 16	8/26/04	5/26/05
Lankin	Lankin 39	8/26/04	5/26/05
Lehr	Faith Christian School	8/26/04	5/20/05
Mandan	Christ the King Elem School	8/26/04	5/26/05
Mandan	Mandan 1	8/26/04	5/26/05
Mandan	Sweet Briar 17	8/26/04	5/26/05
Mandaree	Mandaree 36	8/26/04	5/25/05
Mayville	May-Port CG 14	8/26/04	5/19/05
Medina	Medina 3	8/26/04	5/20/05
Menoken	Menoken 33	8/26/04	5/24/05
New Town	New Town 1	8/26/04	5/26/05
Park River	Park River 78	8/26/04	5/27/05
Raleigh	Prairie Learning Education Center	8/26/04	5/20/05
Saint Anthony	Little Heart 4	8/26/04	5/26/05
Saint Thomas	St Thomas 43	8/26/04	5/20/05
Sterling	Sterling 35	8/26/04	5/26/05
Walhalla	Walhalla 27	8/26/04	5/26/05
Watford City	Johnson Corners Christian Academy	8/26/04	5/26/05
Adams	Adams 128	8/25/04	5/26/05
Belcourt	Belcourt 7	8/25/04	5/27/05
Belcourt	St Ann's Catholic School	8/25/04	5/27/05
Binford	Midkota 7	8/25/04	5/27/05
Bisbee	Bisbee-Egeland 2	8/25/04	5/27/05
Bismarck	Manning 45	8/25/04	5/26/05
Bismarck	Martin Luther School	8/25/04	5/26/05
Buxton	Central Valley 3	8/25/04	5/20/05
Carrington	Carrington 10	8/25/04	5/25/05
Cooperstown	Griggs County Central 18	8/25/04	5/22/05
Devils Lake	St Joseph Elem School	8/25/04	5/27/05
Dickinson	Dickinson 1	8/25/04	5/26/05
Dickinson	Hope Christian Academy	8/25/04	5/27/05
Dunseith	Dunseith Day Elem School	8/25/04	5/20/05
Edmore	Edmore 2	8/25/04	5/26/05
Finley	Finley-Sharon 19	8/25/04	5/20/05
Glenburn	Glenburn 26	8/25/04	5/27/05
Goodrich	Goodrich 16	8/25/04	5/20/05
Grand Forks	Grand Forks 1	8/25/04	5/26/05
Grand Forks	Holy Family Elem School	8/25/04	5/26/05
Grand Forks	St Marys Elem School	8/25/04	5/26/05
Grand Forks	St Michaels Elem School	8/25/04	5/20/05
Halliday	Twin Buttes 37	8/25/04	5/27/05
Hatton	Hatton 7	8/25/04	5/20/05
Hillsboro	Hillsboro 9	8/25/04	5/20/05
Jamestown	Jamestown 1	8/25/04	5/26/05

SystemCity	System	StartDate	EndDate
Jamestown	St Johns Academy	8/25/04	5/26/05
Kindred	Kindred 2	8/25/04	5/20/05
LaMoure	LaMoure 8	8/25/04	5/20/05
Larimore	Larimore 44	8/25/04	5/19/05
Manvel	Manvel 125	8/25/04	5/20/05
Mapleton	Mapleton 7	8/25/04	5/20/05
McClusky	McClusky 19	8/25/04	5/20/05
Minot	Eureka 19	8/25/04	5/26/05
Minot	South Prairie 70	8/25/04	5/26/05
Minto	Minto 20	8/25/04	5/19/05
Mohall	Mohall-Lansford-Sherwood 1	8/25/04	5/20/05
Neché	Neché 55	8/25/04	5/20/05
New Rockford	New Rockford 1	8/25/04	5/25/05
Northwood	Northwood 129	8/25/04	5/20/05
Pembina	Pembina 1	8/25/04	5/20/05
Robinson	Robinson 14	8/25/04	5/24/05
Rogers	North Central 65	8/25/04	5/20/05
Rolette	Rolette 29	8/25/04	5/26/05
Rolla	Mt Pleasant 4	8/25/04	5/19/05
Rugby	Little Flower Elem School	8/25/04	5/20/05
Rugby	Rugby 5	8/25/04	5/20/05
Sheyenne	Sheyenne 12	8/25/04	5/25/05
Spiritwood	Spiritwood 26	8/25/04	5/26/05
Tappen	Tappen 28	8/25/04	5/20/05
Thompson	Thompson 61	8/25/04	5/20/05
Tower City	Maple Valley 4	8/25/04	5/20/05
Towner	TGU 60	8/25/04	5/20/05
Underwood	Underwood 8	8/25/04	5/25/05
Valley City	St Catherine Elem School	8/25/04	5/20/05
Valley City	Valley City 2	8/25/04	5/20/05
Wahpeton	St Johns Elem School	8/25/04	5/25/05
Wahpeton	Wahpeton 37	8/25/04	5/25/05
Washburn	Washburn 4	8/25/04	5/20/05
Wilton	Montefiore 1	8/25/04	5/20/05
Wimbledon	Wimbledon-Courtenay 82	8/25/04	5/20/05
Anamoose	Anamoose 14	8/24/04	5/20/05
Beach	Beach 3	8/24/04	5/20/05
Bismarck	Cathe of Holy Spirit Elem School	8/24/04	5/25/05
Bismarck	St Anne Elem School	8/24/04	5/25/05
Bismarck	St Marys Elem School	8/24/04	5/25/05
Bowman	Bowman 1	8/24/04	5/20/05
Bowman	Sheets 14	8/24/04	5/19/05
Carrington	Prairie View SDA School	8/24/04	5/25/05
Colfax	Richland 44	8/24/04	5/25/05
Des Lacs	United 7	8/24/04	5/20/05
Dickinson	Dickinson Catholic Schools	8/24/04	5/27/05
Drake	Drake 57	8/24/04	5/20/05
Ellendale	Ellendale 40	8/24/04	5/20/05

SystemCity	System	StartDate	EndDate
Emerado	Emerado 127	8/24/04	5/20/05
Fairmount	Fairmount 18	8/24/04	5/26/05
Fessenden	Fessenden-Bowdon 25	8/24/04	5/20/05
Gackle	Gackle-Streeter 56	8/24/04	5/20/05
Garrison	Garrison 51	8/24/04	5/20/05
Golva	Lone Tree 6	8/24/04	5/22/05
Gwinner	North Sargent 3	8/24/04	5/25/05
Harvey	Harvey 38	8/24/04	5/19/05
Hazelton	Hazelton-Moffit-Braddock 6	8/24/04	5/19/05
Hettinger	Hettinger 13	8/24/04	5/27/05
Hope	Hope 10	8/24/04	5/19/05
Hunter	Northern Cass 97	8/24/04	5/20/05
Hurdsfield	Pleasant Valley 35	8/24/04	5/19/05
Jamestown	Hillcrest SDA School	8/24/04	5/26/05
Jamestown	Our Saviors Lutheran Elem School	8/24/04	5/26/05
Kenmare	Kenmare 28	8/24/04	5/20/05
Lakota	Lakota 66	8/24/04	5/26/05
Langdon	Langdon Area 23	8/24/04	5/20/05
Langdon	St Alphonsus Elem School	8/24/04	5/20/05
Lignite	Burke Central 36	8/24/04	5/19/05
Linton	Linton 36	8/24/04	5/20/05
Marion	Litchville-Marion 46	8/24/04	5/20/05
Max	Max 50	8/24/04	5/20/05
McVie	Dakota Prairie 1	8/24/04	5/19/05
Milnor	Milnor 2	8/24/04	5/25/05
Munich	Munich 19	8/24/04	5/20/05
New England	New England 9	8/24/04	5/20/05
Newburg	Newburg-United 54	8/24/04	5/20/05
Page	Page 80	8/24/04	5/19/05
Rhame	Rhame 17	8/24/04	5/20/05
Saint John	St John 3	8/24/04	5/25/05
Sawyer	Sawyer 16	8/24/04	5/20/05
Scranton	Scranton 33	8/24/04	5/20/05
South Heart	South Heart 9	8/24/04	5/20/05
Stanley	Stanley 2	8/24/04	5/20/05
Starkweather	Starkweather 44	8/24/04	5/20/05
Steele	Steele-Dawson 26	8/24/04	5/19/05
Sykeston	Sykes 39	8/24/04	5/20/05
Trenton	Eight Mile 6	8/24/04	5/20/05
Turtle Lake	Turtle Lake-Mercer 72	8/24/04	5/20/05
Verona	Verona 11	8/24/04	5/25/05
Watford City	McKenzie Co 1	8/24/04	5/20/05
Westhope	Westhope 17	8/24/04	5/20/05
White Shield	White Shield 85	8/24/04	5/20/05
Williston	Trinity Christian School	8/24/04	5/27/05
Zeeland	Zeeland 4	8/24/04	5/20/05
Alexander	Alexander 2	8/23/04	5/20/05
Almont	Sims 8	8/23/04	5/20/05

SystemCity	System	StartDate	EndDate
Ashley	Ashley 9	8/23/04	5/19/05
Belcourt	Ojibwa Indian School	8/23/04	5/27/05
Belfield	Belfield 13	8/23/04	5/20/05
Berthold	Lewis & Clark 161	8/23/04	5/19/05
Bismarck	Apple Creek 39	8/23/04	5/20/05
Bismarck	Brentwood Adventist Christian Sch	8/23/04	5/24/05
Bowbells	Bowbells 14	8/23/04	5/19/05
Cando	Southern 8	8/23/04	5/20/05
Carson	Roosevelt 18	8/23/04	5/19/05
Casselton	Central Cass 17	8/23/04	5/20/05
Center	Center-Stanton 1	8/23/04	5/25/05
Crosby	Divide County 1	8/23/04	5/20/05
Devils Lake	Devils Lake 1	8/23/04	5/27/05
Edgeley	Edgeley 3	8/23/04	5/20/05
Elgin	Elgin-New Leipzig 49	8/23/04	5/19/05
Forman	Sargent Central 6	8/23/04	5/19/05
Glen Ullin	Glen Ullin 48	8/23/04	5/22/05
Grafton	Thomas More Academy	8/23/04	5/13/05
Grenora	Grenora 99	8/23/04	5/20/05
Hague	Bakker 10	8/23/04	5/20/05
Halliday	Halliday 19	8/23/04	5/20/05
Hankinson	Hankinson 8	8/23/04	5/20/05
Hebron	Hebron 13	8/23/04	5/18/05
Kensal	Kensal 19	8/23/04	5/20/05
Kulm	Kulm 7	8/23/04	5/20/05
Larimore	Sch	8/23/04	5/27/05
Leeds	Leeds 6	8/23/04	5/20/05
Lidgerwood	Lidgerwood 28	8/23/04	5/19/05
Maddock	Maddock 9	8/23/04	5/20/05
Medora	Billings Co 1	8/23/04	5/20/05
Minnewaukan	Minnewaukan 5	8/23/04	5/20/05
Minot	Minot Catholic Schools	8/23/04	5/20/05
Montpelier	Montpelier 14	8/23/04	5/20/05
Mott	Mott-Regent 1	8/23/04	5/20/05
Napoleon	Napoleon 2	8/23/04	5/19/05
New Salem	New Salem 7	8/23/04	5/20/05
Oakes	Oakes 41	8/23/04	5/26/05
Oberon	Oberon 16	8/23/04	5/20/05
Parshall	Parshall 3	8/23/04	5/19/05
Pettibone	Pettibone-Tuttle 11	8/23/04	5/20/05
Pingree	Pingree-Buchanan 10	8/23/04	5/20/05
Powers Lake	Powers Lake 27	8/23/04	5/20/05
Richardton	Richardton-Taylor 34	8/23/04	5/22/05
Solen	Solen 3	8/23/04	5/20/05
Strasburg	Strasburg 15	8/23/04	5/20/05
Surrey	Surrey 41	8/23/04	5/20/05
Tioga	Tioga 15	8/23/04	5/20/05
Tuttle	Tuttle-Pettibone 20	8/23/04	5/20/05

SystemCity	System	StartDate	EndDate
Velva	Velva 1	8/23/04	5/20/05
Wildrose	Wildrose-Alamo 91	8/23/04	5/19/05
Wing	Wing 28	8/23/04	5/20/05
Wishek	Wishek 19	8/23/04	5/19/05
Wyndmere	Wyndmere 42	8/23/04	5/25/05
Devils Lake	School for the Deaf	8/22/04	5/27/05
Selfridge	Selfridge 8	8/20/04	5/19/05
Bismarck	St Marys Central High School	8/19/04	5/20/05
Calvin	Border Central 14	8/19/04	5/20/05
Dodge	Dodge 8	8/19/04	5/20/05
Flasher	Flasher 39	8/19/04	5/19/05
Fort Yates	St Bernard Mission School	8/19/04	5/24/05
Golden Valley	Golden Valley 20	8/19/04	5/20/05
Ray	Nesson 2	8/19/04	5/19/05
Rock Lake	North Central 28	8/19/04	5/20/05
Bismarck	Naughton 25	8/18/04	5/18/05
Fort Totten	Ft Totten 30	8/18/04	5/20/05
Grand Forks	Grand Forks SDA School	8/18/04	5/25/05
Warwick	Warwick 29	8/18/04	5/20/05
Dunseith	Dunseith 1	8/17/04	5/22/05
Bismarck	Dakota Adventist Academy	8/16/04	5/20/05
Bismarck	Theodore Jamerson Elem School	8/16/04	5/13/05
Fort Yates	Ft Yates 4	8/16/04	5/26/05
Fort Yates	Standing Rock Comm Schools	8/16/04	5/26/05

ND Hospitality Assn. Testimony
Senate Education Committee
SB 2222

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Bill Shalhoob and I represent the ND Hospitality Assn. We are appearing today in support of SB 2222.

Our members businesses and sales fluctuate each year due to many influences beyond our control such as the general economy, weather and the number of trips that are planned annually to North Dakota. One of the biggest factors each year is the school opening date which SB 2222 addresses. I can speak from my own experience as the managing partner of the Select Inn Bismarck. This past fall school started as early as August 23rd. Summer and specifically the traditional family vacation period from mid to late June to Labor Day is our best sales period. Last year our occupancy was over 80% until August 20th and under 50% after school started. For us this meant a difference of \$15,000.00 in our sales for the year, a meaningful amount for a small North Dakota business who is asked to pay property taxes totaling over \$37,000.00 and a school distribution of \$20,683.12 to the entities whose policies hurt us when we are trying to generate the profits necessary to make our tax payments. If we fail to make a profit the property tax is still due from our own or separate resources. Many of our members have experience similar to mine and the total effect around the state for income and sales taxes is substantial.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we believe SB 2222 is a reasonable compromise to our present system and would urge your support. I would be happy to answer any questions.

University Start Dates

UND- August 24
NDSU- August 24
University of Mary- August 25
Dickinson State- August 24
Jamestown University- August 23
Mayville State- August 24
Minot State- August 22
Bismarck State College- August 23

SB 2222