

WORKFORCE ISSUE DISTRIBUTION PROPOSAL - EDUCATION COMMITTEE, HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE, AND WORKFORCE COMMITTEE

The interim Education Committee, Higher Education Committee, and Workforce Committee held a joint meeting on June 24, 2008, to address workforce issues related to the committees' study charges. At the completion of the joint meeting, counsel for the three committees received a directive to draft a proposal of how to distribute the workforce issues between the three committees.

The following tables reflect a list of the committees' study charges and a proposed distribution of the workforce issues addressed at the joint meeting:

Workforce Issue Distribution Proposal	
Education Committee	
Career counselors	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee discussion could address several related issues, including curriculum for career exploration; qualifications of career counselors; school-to-work, internships, apprenticeships, and clinical opportunities; and career awareness for students, parents, and teachers. 	
Student assessment	
Tiered diplomas	
Regional education associations (REAs)	
Data collection	
Preparation for higher education and the workforce	
Curriculum and graduation requirements	
(These topics are also being addressed by the Commission on Education Improvement.)	
Higher Education Committee	
Tuition formula	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee discussion could address several related issues, including state and institution obligations, in-state and out-of-state tuition rates, tuition relationship to courses of study, and affordability. 	
Rapid response and streamline process to respond to workforce needs	
Funding formula	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align with growth sectors Equity relating to technical programs Equity relating to nontraditional students 	
Data collection	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postgraduation location and job Completion/retention rates 	
Streamline high school to higher education	
Out-of-state recruitment	
Internships, apprenticeships, and clinical opportunities (at the institutional level)	
Access (rural)	
Strengthen technical education	
Workforce Committee	
Student loans (Bank of North Dakota)	
Lifetime education accounts	
Tax	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employer automation Attraction and retention of workers Internships and apprenticeships Student loan debt 	
Strengthen link between education and employment	
Attraction and retention of students and workers	
Strengthen Department of Commerce programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambassador program Operation Intern Attraction and retention of workers 	
Prairie Innovation Zone program and economic clusters	

Study Charges

Education Committee

3046 Study ways in which various public and private entities can cooperate with families to promote healthy lifestyles for children and create awareness about the interplay of healthy lifestyle choices and educational success

4032 Study ways in which schools and school districts can train teachers, counselors, and all other school staff to better identify high-risk students and provide programs designed to reduce the incidences of high-risk behaviors that can lead to suicide attempts

2030 § 11 Study the appropriateness and adequacy of high school curricula, with respect to preparing students for higher education and for the workplace, and examine curricular changes implemented in other states and expectations placed on students in other countries

2030 § 16 Study the short-term and long-term evolvement of regional education associations, including the feasibility and desirability of regional education associations becoming political subdivisions; whether teachers should be employed directly by regional education associations, and whether that employment should include bargaining rights, contract renewal and nonrenewal provisions, participation in the Teachers' Fund for Retirement, and participation in the state's uniform group insurance program; the impact that allowing regional education associations to hire teachers directly would have on the recruitment and retention of teachers currently employed by school districts and on teacher salary levels; whether teacher employment contracts, if offered by regional education associations, would have to parallel those of participating school districts with respect to common school calendars, annual or personal leave provisions, and other contractual benefits; the conduct of evaluations, if teachers are employed directly by regional education associations, including who will conduct the evaluations, their frequency, and the criteria upon which the evaluations are based; the organizational structure of regional education associations, including the qualifications of administrative or supervisory personnel; the governance structure of regional education associations; and state level oversight

Higher Education Committee

1003 § 23 Study the means by which the North Dakota University System can further contribute to developing and attracting the human capital to meet North Dakota's economic and workforce needs, including ways to increase postsecondary access, improve the quality of education, contain costs, and other means, including productivity, to maximize the usage of the University System in meeting the human capital needs of the state; including a review of policy recommendations that address the postsecondary delivery system, including the mix of institutions, educational attainment gaps, degree production gaps, recruitment and retention of students, and workforce training needs; and including a review of the impact of the state's changing demographics on the University System long-term financing plan

2013 § 14 Study the provision of services to children and adults who are deaf or hearing-impaired, including the role of the North Dakota School for the Deaf in the provision of educational and rehabilitative services, the short-term and long-term viability of existing state facilities, and alternative approaches that might enhance the scope and breadth of service availability; the feasibility of combining the administration and delivery of services of the School for the Deaf with other area school districts, educational associations governed by joint powers agreements, special education units, and North Dakota Vision Services - School for the Blind; and examination of alternative uses for the buildings on the School for the Deaf campus beyond the scope of the school's present mission

Workforce Committee

1018 § 20 Study the state's system for addressing workforce needs through a workforce system initiative that includes receipt of agency reports regarding implementation of workforce legislation enacted during the 2007 legislative session, active participation in focus groups across the state, and active participation in a workforce congress

2149 § 3 Study job development authorities across the state to determine the economic impact created by the authorities, to examine funding mechanisms used by the authorities when expending resources for economic development purposes, and to determine whether the authorities serve a viable purpose

3025 Study possible methods of growing North Dakota's population and increasing the available workforce in the state

Study the means by which the University System fulfills North Dakota's workforce needs - Legislative Council chairman directive