

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CREATING DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION (13.3006.01000)

SECTION 1.

1. Department of Higher Education

- Created for administration of public higher education at Bismarck, Bottineau, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Mayville, Minot, Valley City, Wahpeton, and Williston

2. Director of Higher Education

- Appointed by the Governor
- Term of office is three years - Renewable
- Removable by the Governor - For cause

3. Director of Higher Education - Qualifications

- Doctoral degree
- Familiarity with higher education delivery and administration
- Committed to development and maintenance of an educational system that:
 - Provides academic and technical training opportunities for students
 - Meets current and future educational and workforce challenges

4. Higher Education Council

- Eleven members
- Appointed by the Governor with advice and consent of three of the following:
 - Majority Leader - House of Representatives
 - Minority Leader - House of Representatives
 - Majority Leader - Senate
 - Minority Leader - Senate
 - President Pro Tempore - Senate
- Individual members - Must understand purpose and mission of higher education
- Group - Must be balanced and representative

Must understand function of higher education with respect to agriculture, arts, commerce and finance, manufacturing, mineral extraction, natural resources, and professions

5. Higher Education Council - Terms of office

- Three years - Staggered
- Maximum of two consecutive terms

6. Higher Education Council - Chairman

- Annually designated by the Governor
- Maximum of two consecutive designations

7. Higher Education Council - Meetings

- Must meet quarterly
- Regular meetings - At the call of the chairman
- Special meetings - Upon petition of five council members

8. Higher Education Council - Compensation

- Compensation - Same as the Legislative Assembly
- Expense reimbursement - Same as for state officers

9. Higher Education Council - Purpose

- Provide advice and guidance to the director regarding delivery and administration of higher education, including:
 - Academic standards
 - Accountability
 - Budgetary and financial matters
 - Managerial and operational matters
 - Regulatory and legislative matters
- May form workgroups, task forces, and subcommittees to obtain information and outside expertise

SECTION 2.

Repeals Article VIII, Section 6, of the Constitution of North Dakota (State Board of Higher Education)

SECTION 3.

(Measure to be on ballot November 2014)

If approved, the measure is effective on January 1, 2015.