



HB1375 | House Education Committee Hearing – January 26, 2021

Chair Owens and Committee Members,

Respectfully, I submit this testimony in **support of HB1375**. This bill would help us provide a tangible incentive for students to participate in dual-credit courses and motivate them to continue their higher education in North Dakota.

There are many benefits to support and incentivize our students to enroll in dual-credit courses in North Dakota:

- Incentivizing dual-credit could **increase students' exposure to CTE career pathways** that they might **not** otherwise have through their high school curriculum. Providing these opportunities exposes students to “middle-skill” careers, which are in the greatest need in North Dakota, further reducing the stigma of these high-paying, high-demand CTE careers.
- This expansion could help us with our **critical workforce shortage**. Through participation in dual-credit courses students are able to complete college-level courses sooner, decreasing their time to degree, allowing them to enter the workforce more quickly.
- Perhaps most importantly, it will increase our **students' success**. Research indicates that students who participate in dual credit are more likely than their peers to finish high school, enter college, and complete a degree.
- Through encouraging high school students to take courses at Colleges and Career Academies, which already have the equipment necessary to prepare students for technical fields, **enable high school CTE programs to expand options for students without additional drain on the high schools' resources**.

Passage and funding of this bill would be a true investment in the students and future of North Dakota. I respectfully request you consider a ‘do pass’ on HB1375. Please contact me with any further questions/concerns you might have about dual-credit.

Thank you for your time.

John Richman, Ph.D.

President

John.Richman@ndscs.edu

701.671.2221