

Chairman Owens and Education Committee,

Introduction

HB 1460 is a bill that was introduced to the legislature and but ultimately, you the education committee can determine a question only the legislature can answer.

What is the proper role of state funded higher education peace officers in our communities?

- 1) Are they meant to just protect state higher education property? This bill as written would only allow them to have jurisdiction only on higher education property.
- 2) Are they to protect higher education property and partially help local police in our local communities? This is the way the current law is. This was passed by the legislature in my first session in 2017. Boundaries were spelled out to encompass the boundaries "University area" of town. See Map example. Some of the issues with the current law is that the police then tend to patrol the busiest roads which are the boundaries. Demers Ave, Gateway Dr. / Patrol Gateway Drive to airport.

Issues with the current law: They appear to always have issues because of patrolling the borders instead within the campus area. There is a bill in the Senate to move the boundaries again. This will not solve the problem as the same problem will arise at a different location. For example

- 3) They have the same training, why not allow them to patrol the whole city? The money is already being spent, if their services are needed somewhere else in the city, why not allow them jurisdiction? Included in my testimony is the amendments you would need to change it to this option.

Think of this bill as a lump of clay that I'm giving to the education committee. Please form this bill into the answer to solve the jurisdiction issue of the higher education police.

Suggestion: Spell out their role to protect by setting their boundaries to a workable solution that doesn't need to be solved every few years.

What is the mix? How much state dollars should be used to patrol/police local communities?

This bill was introduced to ask a question and hopefully the education committee can solve this issue so we don't need to keep addressing jurisdiction issues every few years. Education committee, I give you this bill.

Thank you and good luck.



January 25, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1460

Page 1, line 1, remove "subdivision b of"

Page 1, replace lines 5 through 21 with:

"SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 2 of section 15-10-17 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

2. Authorize the employment of law enforcement officers having jurisdiction on property owned or leased by the state board of higher education to enforce laws and regulations at its institutions, or as otherwise provided in this subsection.
 - a. A law enforcement officer employed by North Dakota state university has jurisdiction on all property owned or leased by the state board of higher education and other property ~~on and within the boundaries of the intersection of nineteenth avenue north and Dakota drive south to eighth avenue north, eighth avenue north east to tenth street north, tenth street north north to nineteenth avenue north, nineteenth avenue north west to Dakota drive~~within the city limits of Fargo.
 - b. A law enforcement officer employed by the university of North Dakota has jurisdiction on all property owned or leased by the state board of higher education and other property ~~on and within the boundaries of the intersection of demers avenue and north fifty fifth street, north fifty fifth street north to university avenue, university avenue east to north forty second street, north forty second street north to gateway drive, gateway drive east to north columbia road, north columbia road south to tenth avenue north, tenth avenue north east to north twenty fifth street, north twenty fifth street south to sixth avenue north, sixth avenue north east to north twentieth street, north twentieth street south to fifth avenue north, fifth avenue north west to north twenty third street, north twenty third street south to university avenue, university avenue east to north twenty first street, north twenty first street south to dyke avenue, dyke avenue east to north washington street, north washington street south to demers avenue, and demers avenue west to north fifty fifth street. Jurisdiction under this subdivision includes~~within the city limits of Grand Forks and the Grand Forks international airport.
 - c. A law enforcement officer employed by the North Dakota state college of science has jurisdiction on all property owned or leased by the state board of higher education and property on and within the boundaries of the intersection of seventh avenue north and eleventh street north, eleventh street north to sixteenth avenue north, sixteenth avenue north west to fourth street north, and fourth street north south to seventh avenue north.