



1    **SB 2325** – Amending the student scholarship

2    NDCEL Testimony – 2/1/21

3    Chairman Schaible and members of the Senate Education Committee. For the record my name is  
4    Aimee Copas and I am here today representing NDCEL and all of our school leaders.

5    I will keep this brief. SB 2235 seems much like a replica of SB 2136 passed out of this committee  
6    and out of the senate chamber recently with a unanimous do pass. This bill attempts to replicate  
7    an amendment recently brought on the floor of the Senate that failed which removes the  
8    requirement to attend a college with a physical presence in this state. One of the beautiful things  
9    that our state scholarships does is keeps our students in the state of North Dakota thereby increasing  
10   the odds that we will keep them in our workforce.

11   NDCEL strongly recommends that we continue to keep our investment into our youth in-state.  
12   This investment is also an investment in our North Dakota colleges and programs which keeps the  
13   dollars at home as well and is forward thinking investment in our economy.

14   Therefore, we respectfully recommend a do-not-pass on SB 2235.