A Resolution in Support of NDSAs 20-21 Legislative Priorities

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) represents the voice of North Dakota’s 45,000 public college and university students; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDSA is to represent all students enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and advocate on issues of higher education in support of access, affordability, quality, and the student experience; and,

WHEREAS, the North Dakota legislature meets every two years, for up to 80 days, to set North Dakota policies and laws and to appropriate state dollars; and,

WHEREAS, higher education in North Dakota is greatly affected by some of these legislative decisions and can greatly influence the direction of the entire NDUS; and,

WHEREAS, the needs of the students of North Dakota change between each and every Legislative Biennium; and,

WHEREAS, historically, every biennium the NDSA’s General Assembly has developed a list of legislative priorities that they advocate and lobby for on the behalf of higher education students in North Dakota; and,

WHEREAS, during the time in between NDSA’s monthly meetings the NDSA executive team is tasked with advocating for students’ legislative priorities to the North Dakota legislature; and,

WHEREAS, after multiple collaborative discussions in the State Legislative Affairs Committee (SLAC), the NDSA executive team has developed a document titled “The North Dakota Student Association’s Legislative Priorities: Pre-Session,” that outlines the four main priorities of the NDSA during the 21-23 biennium along with explanations for their prioritization and specific requests; and,

WHEREAS, the members of the executive team need proper documentation of the topics that the General Assembly wishes them to advocate for during the legislative session; so

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NDSA General Assembly approves the document “The North Dakota Student Association’s Legislative Priorities: Pre-Session” as the organization’s official statement of legislative priorities and goals for those priorities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NDSA General Assembly gives the executive team the ability to make marginal changes to the language of the legislative priorities document to ensure accuracy of information, such as if new data is released concerning the priorities, as long as the changes preserve the intention of the original statement.

Approved by the NDSA General Assembly on Saturday, November 21st, 2020.