



**NDSA-21-2021**

## **A Resolution Supporting HB 1083**

**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 career and technical education scholarship and the North Dakota academic scholarship have supported higher education students financially in the past; and,

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned scholarships incentivize students to remain in North Dakota, positively contributing to North Dakota's workforce, economy, and development; and,

**WHEREAS**, in the spring semester of 2020, both higher education students and North Dakota high school students were severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

**WHEREAS**, the effects of COVID-19 took an extreme toll on student mental health, academic performance, learning conditions, and overall success; and,

**WHEREAS**, HB 1083, introduced on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, proposes that "A resident high school student is exempt from the requirements in subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of subdivision h of subsection 1 and subparagraph b of paragraph 2 of subdivision h of subsection 1 for units earned during a semester, quarter, or term that includes March, April, or May of 2020." [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, this bill is intended to mitigate the obstacles that North Dakota high school students faced as a result of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, if implemented, the bill has the potential to allow access to affordable higher education within the state for North Dakota high school students; so,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the NDSA supports HB 1083 and the intent to increase access to affordable higher education in North Dakota through student scholarships; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the NDSA commends the North Dakota legislature for prioritizing student during a time of dire need; so

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the NDSA continues to support opportunities to increase access to higher education within the state and increased affordability for students.

*Approved by the NDSA General Assembly on Saturday, March 27th, 2021.*

[1] <https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/67-2021/documents/21-0465-01000.pdf>