



NDSA-21-2223

A Resolution in Support of HB 1392

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, in Article X, Section 18 of the North Dakota Constitution, it states that the state cannot "loan or give its credit or make donations to or in aid of any individual, association or corporation except for reasonable support of the poor;" and,

WHEREAS, this section of the article also refers to student clubs and organizations, prohibiting the usage of their funds for gifts, giveaways, or food; and,

WHEREAS, HB 1392 gives all ND higher education institutions the opportunity to deposit and withdraw student club and organization funds from their institutions' account in the Bank of North Dakota; and,

WHEREAS, HB 1392 would enable smaller institutions with more limited resources to more easily manage these dollars in the institution's Bank of North Dakota account and subsequently disburse those dollars for their specified purpose; and,

WHEREAS, student organization accounts are particularly vulnerable under the current rules as the turnover in these organizations can be frequent and create additional risk for these organizations to be required to maintain separate bank accounts for their organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the NDSA supports increased opportunities for student-led initiatives to promote campus involvement; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the NDSA supports exempting students club and organization funding accounts from state anti-gift regulations enumerated in Article X, Section 18 of the North Dakota Constitution; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NDSA supports the passage of HB 1392.

*Approved by the North Dakota Student Association General Assembly
Saturday, March 25th, 2023*