



NDSA-26-2223

A Resolution Opposing the TikTok Ban Policy

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, a lot of the security concerns brought forward are privacy issues related to using the TikTok application; and,

WHEREAS, The State Board of Higher Education voted to block TikTok from all North Dakota University System devices and campus networks on March 30th, 2023. This blocks access to the application if any individual is connected to a NDUS campus network; and,

WHEREAS, The TikTok application predominately collects the same data and uses the same resources as other social media platforms; and,

WHEREAS, fears concerning the data storage and security of the global version of TikTok stem from misconception and misinformation; and,

WHEREAS, institutions and student organizations use the application as a recruitment platform and a way to keep student engaged in activities and events that happen around campus; and,

WHEREAS, this is a way to reach students and potential students on an application they utilize; and,

WHEREAS, banning the use of TikTok on campus networks would potentially inhibit NDUS institutions' marketing efforts through the application, putting all NDUS schools at a severe disadvantage when compared to private and out-of-state institutions which will still be able to leverage TikTok as a highly engaging recruitment tool for their enrollment; and,

WHEREAS, with the ban from NDUS devices and networks, students are still able to access TikTok from their cellular networks; and,

WHEREAS, the topic was brought before the state board twice, but the NDSA was not consulted about this topic and policy being proposed; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the NDSA is opposed to the TikTok ban policy passed by the SBHE, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NDSA requests that we be consulted about any issues related to students before being passed as a SBHE policy.

*Approved by the North Dakota Student Association General Assembly
Saturday, April 15th, 2023*