A Resolution Endorsing the State Board of Higher Education’s Needs-Based Budget

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 State Board of Higher Education has recommended a needs-based budget for the 2020-2021 biennium; and,

WHEREAS, pay freezes ordered during past biennia have resulted in the loss of valuable faculty and has left North Dakota with a less financially enticing environment to attract experienced talent; and,

WHEREAS, the needs-based budget calls for a four-percent pay raise for each year during the upcoming biennium; and,

WHEREAS, this pay raise could be financed through three equal sources: state appropriations, the institutions, and student tuition increases; and,

WHEREAS, students demand better for their faculty and have deemed an increase in tuition as tolerable to the proper function of the University System; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that NDSA endorses the needs-based budget proposal recommended by the State Board of Higher Education; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NDSA advises the state legislature to create a mechanism that allows institutions to finance pay raises without subtracting funding from essential services or faculty and staff.