



NDSA-15-1819

A Resolution in Consideration of North Dakota SCR 4016

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 Constitution currently states the Governor shall appoint a full-time student in good academic standing who is a North Dakota resident as a voting member of the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE); and,

WHEREAS, a significant number of students enrolled in the NDUS maintain out-of-state residency; and,

WHEREAS, the in-state residency requirement prevents well-informed, qualified students from serving on the SBHE; and,

WHEREAS, SCR 4016, as proposed, would increase the number of voting members serving on the SBHE from eight to 11; and,

WHEREAS, increasing the number of members on the State Board without increasing the number of voting student members dilutes the voice of the students; and,

WHEREAS, student representation on the State Board of Higher Education provides the SBHE with valuable insight into issues students face; and,

WHEREAS, preserving a comparable level of student representation is imperative for the SBHE to understand the student perspective; and,

WHEREAS, voting student representation encourages other voting members to actively seek the input of student members when voting on contentious issues; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that NDSA supports eliminating the in-state residency requirement for student members serving on the SBHE; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NDSA encourages the 66th Legislative Assembly to consider increasing the number of voting student members who serve on the State Board.