

**NDSA-18-1819**

A Resolution Concerning Concealed Carry on College Campuses

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, Engrossed Senate Bill 2172, a bill relating to the possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon at a public gathering, was amended by the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee to incorporate language permitting individuals who possess a class 1 exempt firearm license and complete additional statutory training and testing requirements to carry a concealed firearm into a "publicly owned or operated building" and an "athletic or sporting event"; and,

WHEREAS, Engrossed Senate Bill 2172 was approved by the North Dakota House of Representatives as amended; and,

WHEREAS, an individual who intends to receive a class 1 exempt firearm license is required to complete training equivalent to that of a law enforcement officer, which often involves 80 hours of classroom training and 20 hours of firearms training, as well as receive additional annual training and certification¹; and,

WHEREAS, Engrossed Senate Bill 2172, as amended by the House of Representatives, requires additional training that includes instruction on situational awareness considerations when assessing the need to carry a dangerous weapon concealed in a publicly owned or operated building, church, school, and athletic or sporting event; field training on weapons and procedures; and at least two hours of specialized training relating to when, where, and how to carry a dangerous weapon concealed²; and,

WHEREAS, the definition of "publicly owned or operated building" includes public schools and institutions of higher education; and,

WHEREAS, the definition of "athletic or sporting event" includes school-sponsored athletic or sporting events; and,

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Senate refused to concur with Engrossed Senate Bill 2172, as amended by the House of Representatives; and,

WHEREAS, Engrossed Senate Bill 2172 will be transitioned to a conference committee with Senators Luick, Lemm, and Bakke; and,

WHEREAS, NDSA recognizes that campuses in the NDUS are incredibly diverse and may have different needs and beliefs relating to concealed carry; and,

WHEREAS, changes to campus policies that affect the rights of students should be formulated with student input; so,

Approved by the NDSA General Assembly on Friday, April 12, 2019



THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that NDSA believes the decision of whether concealed carry is permissible on the grounds of higher education institutions should be decided individually by each respective institution; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NDSA insists that individual institutions seek out and be open to student feedback and leave ample time for that feedback to be received before campus policies are finalized.

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- 1 Representative Pat D. Heinert (2019). House Floor Testimony on Engrossed Senate Bill 2172. http://video.legis.nd.gov/en/PowerBrowser/PowerBrowserV2/20190412/-1/13145?startposition=20190411082829#agenda_
 - 2 Engrossed Senate Bill 2172 (19.0846.03000) (2019). <http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/documents/19-0846-03000.pdf>