

Legislative Review

A Look at Higher Education in Weeks 1 and 2: Jan. 10-21, 2011

Campuses Begin Testimony with House Appropriations

The 11 North Dakota University System campuses provided testimony on **HB 1003**, the University System budget bill, Monday through Thursday, Jan. 17-20, 2011.

Opening remarks were provided by Jon Backes, State Board of Higher Education president. Each one and one-half hour presentation included a campus overview and the campus' 2011-13 budget proposal and funding priorities. The campus perspectives

were provided by presidents, administrators and, for some campuses, student representatives.

The North Dakota University System overview and the University System Office budget overview will be presented Monday, Jan. 24. NDSU Ag Research and Extension and the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences budget hearings will be held Tuesday, Jan. 25.



The University System is critical to the development and diversification of North Dakota's economy. The way we will achieve this is to be systemic in our approach and to free the presidents, as CEOs of the campuses, to achieve the goals of the state.

Jon Backes,
SBHE president
HB 1003 hearing
1.17.11

Senate Education Votes "Do Pass" on Electronic Portfolio Bill

SB 2056, a bill to establish an electronic portfolio pilot program, passed out of Senate Education on a "do pass" vote of 7-0 Jan. 17.

The bill also clarifies that TrainND can access New Jobs Training Funds available through Job Service ND. The bill was amended, removing a requirement for the Department of Commerce's Workforce Division to create a student opportunities website.

SB 2056 was re-referred to Senate Appropriations.

Consumer Protection Bills Heard in House Education

HB 1128 and **HB 1129**, two bills dealing with regulation of private post-secondary institutions, were heard in House Education Jan. 12.

Requested by the State Board for Career and Technical Education, the bills provide two regulation models. HB 1128 would create a new commission to regulate private institutions, and HB 1129 would split those responsibilities between CTE and the SBHE.

The committee did not take action on either bill.

Senate Judiciary Hears Fake ID Bill

SB 2133, a bill authorizing retailers to seize false IDs used to purchase alcoholic beverages, was heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee Jan. 17.

Jane Vangsness Frisch, director of the Higher Education Consortium for Substance Abuse Prevention, testified in support of the bill. Currently, if an underage person uses a fake ID and the server recognizes the fraud, it is illegal for the server to confiscate the ID.

The committee did not take action on the bill.

Week Three Agenda

- HB 1003 Mon., Jan. 24, 9 a.m.,**
H-APPEDU: Provides an appropriation for the North Dakota University System
- HB 1385 Tues., Jan. 25, 11 a.m.,**
H-EDU: Provides tuition and fee waivers for people 55 and older
- HB 1208, HB 1257, HB 1263**
Wed., Jan. 26, 9 a.m., H-EDU: Prohibit discontinuing the UND Fighting Sioux nickname and logo
- HB 1060 Wed., Jan. 26, 2:30 p.m.,**
H-APPEDU: Relaxes audit requirements for centers of excellence
- HB 1369 Wed., Jan. 26, 3 p.m.,**
H-APPEDU: Adds new accountability measures related to non-instructional costs and non-resident students

- SB 2057 Thurs., Jan. 27, 8:30 a.m.,**
S-APPR: Provides funding for the Centers of Research Excellence Program and Centers of Entrepreneurship Excellence Grants
- HB 1033 Thurs., Jan. 27, 8:50 a.m.,**
H-APPR: Continues "flexibility with accountability" on block grant appropriations
- HB 1034 Thurs., Jan. 27, 9:10 a.m.,**
H-APPR: Continues "flexibility with accountability" on carryover authority
- HB 1035 Thurs., Jan. 27, 9:30 a.m.,**
H-APPR: Continues "flexibility with accountability" on the continuing appropriation of non-state funds
- SB 2213 Fri., Jan. 28, 9:30 a.m.,**
S-GVA: Increases family medical leave for state employees from 40 to 80 hours

Failed Bills

- HB 1068:** Intended to clarify that NDUS A & E contracts for construction projects are governed by NDCC 15-10
- HB 1168:** Would have appropriated \$200,000 in general funds for the MiSU Rural Crime Justice Center victim assistance academy
- SB 2092:** Would have given authority to the institution president or other institution officer to sign easements