Senate Bill

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Sara Feese, Matt Kopp - Chief of Staff

Sponsors:

CC: Nick Creamer - Student Body President, Lexi Hanson - Student Body Vice President, Cassie Gerhardt - Student Government Advisor, Andrew Frelich – Student Government Office Manager, Student Body Treasurer – Abi Nadeau;

Date: 11/24/2013

Re: Mister Bus Service to Minneapolis

Whereas, a large amount of students at UND reside in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, and

Whereas, there is a demand for an effective means of public transportation to and from the Minneapolis/St. Paul area by students, and

Whereas, having a specialized licensed driver would contribute to the overall safety of students, and

Whereas, this service would greatly lower the risk of life threatening situations, especially from harsh road and weather conditions, and

Whereas, a commuter bus paid for by Student Government would allow for students to save money driving to and from the Twin Cities, and

Whereas, this program may eliminate the need for some students to purchase a parking pass, thereby saving them additional monies, and

Whereas, having this bus system would allow students to guarantee themselves a ride to the cities for holiday weekends, diminishing all confusion, miscommunication, and stress that comes from carpooling, and

Whereas, the train that currently runs from Grand Forks to Minneapolis is often late, and also takes a greater amount of time to reach the Cities, and

Whereas, this bus service would provide for a punctual and more efficient means of transportation than the train, and

Whereas, traveling to the Minneapolis/St. Paul area takes up approximately 10 hours of a weekend if driving is the mode of transportation chosen, and

Whereas, a bus would allow for those 10 hours being safely put to use by engaging in activities that are not normally allowed while driving, such as studying, talking on the phone, or resting, and

Whereas, a bus would make for fewer drivers on the road, having the effect of relieving traffic congestion and decreasing air pollution, and
Whereas, the Mister Bus Company already provides valuable transportation services to University of North Dakota Students in an efficient and cost effective way, and

Therefore, be it moved that the University of North Dakota Student Government allocate $1200 to Mister Bus LLC from the Student Government general account per bus transporting students, at times to be determined by the Student Body President, with a notice being posted on the front door of the Student Government Office, on the Student Government Facebook page, and at various other locations throughout campus as determined by the Public Relations Coordinator, no less than three weeks prior to the scheduled trip, and

Therefore, be it further moved that a sign-up sheet be provided in the Student Government office, and that if one week prior to the scheduled trip there are fewer than 20 students signed up for the bus service, that the particular trip be cancelled, and

Therefore, be it further moved that if a trip is cancelled, the students that were signed up to be taken on the bus be notified no more than 24 hours after the cancellation determination is made, and

Therefore, be it furthest moved that the representatives of the University of North Dakota Student Government make a sincere effort to inform their constituents of this program.