Senate Bill

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Tanner Franklin - Student Body President; Jazymn Friesz - Chief of Staff

Sponsors: Brandon Beyer - Honors Program Senator

CC: Tanner Franklin - Student Body President, Brett Johnson - Student Body Vice President, Cassie Gerhardt - Student Government Advisor, Andrew Frelich – Student Organization Funding Agency Advisor; Dr. Lori Reesor – Vice President for Student Affairs, Cara Haugren – Associate Vice President for Student Services & Dean of Students

Date: November 16th, 2014

Re: 24 Hour Memorial Union Funding

Whereas, college students’ study habits are continually changing and,

Whereas, several institutions across the country have adapted to this though changes in design and operational hours for study spaces on campus and,

Whereas, 10/15 (75%) of the University of North Dakota’s (UND’s) peer institutions as identified by Institutional Research of UND have 24 hour libraries/study spaces that are accessible to all students and,

Whereas, in addition to the ten mentioned above, two more institutions have future 24 hour study spaces laid out in their strategic plans and,

Whereas, 14/15 (93.3%) have operational hours of libraries/study spaces accessible to all students later than the University of North Dakota and,

Whereas, existing 24 hour study spaces on our campus are very limited by department and,

Whereas, in recent Tuesday Two poll with 1318 respondents, over 78% of students saw a need for additional 24 hour study spaces on our campus and,

Whereas, on November 14th, 2014 new study space in the Memorial Union lower level opened for all students and,

Whereas, this study space could act as a sort of “pilot test” for future updates/renovations to the Chester Fritz Library and,

Whereas, the Memorial Union has the potential for adjacent parking in the ramp with tunnel access and,

Whereas, Chief Plummer has expressed interest in opening a University Police Department kiosk to serve students in the Memorial Union and,

Whereas, this kiosk could act as additional building security for the Memorial Union and,
Whereas, the Memorial Union has existing infrastructure to house other 24 hour or late night services—i.e. food/drink, computer labs, group study rooms, new study spaces, activity spaces, etc. and,

Whereas, in the same Tuesday Two poll as mentioned above, 71% of respondents would be in support of the Memorial Union being operational 24 hours a day and,

Whereas, a portion of the costs of opening the building 24 hours were estimated to be $15,000.00 for the staffing of the Spring 2015 semester and up to $12,000.00 for a student identification electronic door access to be installed and,

Therefore, be it moved that Student Government fund the first semester of making the Memorial Union operational 24/5 (Sunday-Thursday beginning on the first day of classes of the Spring 2015 semester) by funding an amount of up to $15,000.00 to be allocated towards staffing, and up to $12,000.00 for the installation of electronic door access. Any funds that would not be used would then be returned to Student Government’s unallocated account.

[Signature]

Student Body President, Tanner Franklin