Senate Resolution

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Jon Knutson, Sean McClain – Governmental Affairs Commissioners

Sponsors: Derek LaBrie – JDOSAS 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 Halgren – Associate Vice President for Student Services & Dean of Students

Date: November 16th, 2014

Re: UND Student Government Legislative Lobbying Goals 2015 Legislative Session

Whereas, tuition rates and student fees are critical concerns for college students and providing quality education at an affordable price should be a desired goal, and

Whereas, the maximum rate of tuition increase at UND as approved by the current State Board of Higher Education is 3.72% annually, and

Whereas, there is legislation pending that indicates limiting tuition and fee increases at state 2-year institutions, and

Whereas, the current incentive program for STEM programs allocates up to $1,500 per individual annually for being employed in the state of North Dakota following graduation from a state institution capping out at $6,000, and

Whereas, there is an unprecedented workforce shortage across that state of North Dakota that shows there is a need to further incentivize graduates of the North Dakota University System to stay in the state following completion of their respective degrees, and

Whereas, there has been discussion on proposed legislation regarding a 1% interest rate on student loans from the Bank of North Dakota, and

Therefore, be it moved that the University of North Dakota Student Senate endorses the following lobbying goals on behalf of the Student Body of the University of North Dakota for the 2015 North Dakota Legislative Session:

- Pursue a tuition cap and or freeze for all institutions in the North Dakota University System.

- Expansion of current incentives for graduates of the NDUS to pursue employment in the state of North Dakota such as the STEM program.

- Implementation of a reduced interest rate cap on all student loans from the Bank of North Dakota.