Senate Resolution

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Tanner Franklin – Student Body President

Sponsors: Taylor Nelson – On-Campus Apartments Senator

CC: Tanner Franklin - Student Body President, Brett Johnson - Student Body Vice President, Cassie Gerhardt - Student Government Advisor, Andrew Freligh – 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: January 25th, 2014

Re: Support for North Dakota House Bill 1261

2 Whereas, textbooks and other classroom resources are becoming more and more costly for today’s students, and

4 Whereas, the University System workgroup on open textbooks reported “students spend, on average, approximately $900 per year,” and

6 Whereas, new editions of textbooks are released every three to four years with an approximate 12% increase in price with each new addition, and

8 Whereas, North Dakota House Bill 1261 relates to the adoption of open resources, and

Whereas, an open resource program would enable facility to utilize materials, including textbooks, that would be available to the University community at not cost, and

Whereas, according to the North Dakota Student Association Resolution SLAC 05-1415, the adoption of such a program could save students up to 80% of their textbook costs, reducing them to an average of $184 per year per student, and

14 Whereas, necessary funds would be appropriated to create an incentive grant program to increase the use of open educational resources, and

16 Whereas, the use of open resources by facility would not be mandated, but rather incentivized through the grant program, and

18 Whereas, an understanding that the quality of resources must always be the priority, giving facility the flexibility to use resources of their choosing, and

20 Therefore, be it resolved that the Student Senate of the University of North Dakota, fully supports the intention of North Dakota House Bill 1261, and urges the 64th Legislative Assembly to adopt this piece of legislation.