Senate Bill

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota

Authors: Matt Kopp – Student Body President

Sponsors: Ryan Brown – College of Business and Public Administration Senator

CC: Matt Kopp - Student Body President, Taylor Nelson – 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: 8/30/2015

Re: Grand Forks Herald Readership Program

Whereas, in the past, the University of North Dakota Student Government has entered into agreements with the New York Times for a college readership program, and

Whereas, the agreement included delivery of the New York Times and the Grand Forks Herald, as well as online access to the New York Times, and

Whereas, advances in technology have made it possible for students to access national news similar to that provided by the New York Times from their smartphones, tablets, and laptops for free, and

Whereas, this has resulted in fewer students utilizing the New York Times, both in hard copy and digital form, and

Whereas, the highest number of students to access the online version of the New York Times in a day was one student, and

Whereas, this program has a line-item in the UND Student Government budget of more than $25,000 for FY16, and

Whereas, Student Senate has a responsibility to allocate student fees in a responsible manner that will benefit the greatest number of students possible, and

Whereas, the Grand Forks Herald has offered to continue to deliver for a price that is comparable to the price that was previously set under the agreement with the New York Times, and

Whereas, there is value in providing UND students with local news that affects the community in which they live, and

Whereas, the Grand Forks Herald frequently reports on activities, events, and issues at the University of North Dakota that are relevant to students, and

Whereas, a goal of UND Student Government should be to inform students of issues on campus, in the community, and throughout the region,
Therefore, be it moved that UND Student Government does not enter into a new agreement with the New York Times for the 2015-16 academic year, and

Therefore, be it further moved that the UND Student Senate grants the authority to negotiate a new contract with the Grand Forks Herald to the Student Body President, and

Therefore, be it further moved that $13,000 be transferred from the College Readership line-item in the FY16 Student Government budget to the unallocated fund.

Matthew Kopp, Student Body President