Senate Resolution

To: The Student Senate of the University of North Dakota
Authors: Chris Petschen – Director of Governmental Affairs
Sponsors: Miranda Petrich – On-Campus Housing Senator, Tony Mussehl – Off-Campus Housing Senator, Trevor Nameniuk – Off-Campus Housing Senator
CC: Erik Hanson - Student Body President, Kaleb Dschaaak - Student Body Vice President, Cassie Gerhardt - Student Government Advisor, Andrew Frelich - Student Organization Funding Agency Advisor; Dr. Cara Haiden - Vice President for Student Affairs and Diversity,

Date: 1/16/2019
Re: In Support of SB 2282 for Economic Diversification through Research Grant Program

Whereas, over the past decade, the state of North Dakota has seen a tumultuous cycle of economic expansion and growth, followed by economic downturn and contraction, caused by the volatility of the commodities upon which North Dakota’s economy is heavily based—oil and agriculture, and

Whereas, due to this heavily non-diversified economy, the state of North Dakota is vulnerable to economic uncertainty depending on commodity prices, and

Whereas the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation (ITIF) Ranked North Dakota 38th in its States New Economy Index, which ranks all 50 states based on their suitability and adaptability to the innovation-driven economy of the future, and

Whereas, in order to secure good and lasting opportunities in the state for the coming generations, economic diversification, coupled with a push for innovation is needed, and

Whereas, the two research universities of North Dakota, UND and NDSU, are well equipped to provide the state with invaluable research in new areas to drive technological innovation, and to become a catalyst for the diversification of the state’s economy, and

Whereas, UND’s faculty and students only stand to benefit from the opportunities that research and innovation can bring, and

Whereas, SB 2282 aims to allocate 15% of the North Dakota Legacy Fund’s interest towards Research grants made available to UND and NDSU to promote the economic diversification of North Dakota’s economy, and

Whereas, these research funds being made available to the state’s universities would have an astounding impact on innovation and would help real solutions to be reached in order to better prepare the state for economic change, and

Therefore, be it moved that UND Student Government stands in support of SB 2282, and the opportunities it will provide for the students of UND and the state of North Dakota.