

2013 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2189

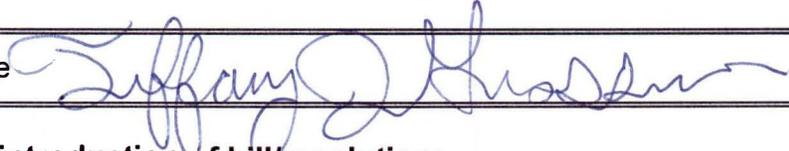
2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Education Committee
Missouri River Room, State Capitol

SB 2189
1-30-13
17951

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to requirements for North Dakota scholarships; and to declare an emergency

Minutes:

You may make reference to "attached testimony."

Chairman Flakoll opened the hearing on SB 2189

Senator Joan Heckaman, District 23: I am here to introduce you to SB 2189. (Written testimony #1 attached, also passed out written testimony #2 from Janet Edlund, Superintendent of Dakota Prairie School District)

Chairman Flakoll: Can they retake the tests?

Senator Heckaman: They are given a time slot and those students have an opportunity to assess at a different day but most remain in the same timeframe. They can't retake it.

Chairman Flakoll: Do students take it seriously?

Senator Heckaman: Some do not take it seriously. Some that could be proficient are not.

Chairman Flakoll: The change to the required courses that are needed is because of what?

Senator Heckaman: The two foreign language requirements were restrictive and limited other curricular offerings. I wanted council to remove and add one foreign language and they changed it according to the drafting of another bill that may be in the House right now. I feel that one foreign language would be great. We may want to look at an amendment.

Dr. Brian Dutscher Superintendent of Carrington School District: I wish to testify in support of SB 218. (Written Testimony #3 attached)

Chairman Flakoll: Why don't we make the test a requirement for graduation?

Dr. Brian Dutscher Superintendent of Carrington School District: That would be a very high stakes test. We are looking at a scholarship not a graduation benefit.

Chairman Flakoll: What if they could retake it? We hear feedback from citizens and higher education that students are not always fully prepared for higher education or the work force. Would that help?

Dr. Brian Dutscher Superintendent of Carrington School District: I think adding that to the state scholarship would create a better environment for that testing environment within our school.

Chairman Flakoll: Do you have data on those that pass the assessment versus those that do not pass it on their average ACT scores or their high school GPAs??

Dr. Brian Dutscher Superintendent of Carrington School District: Not at this time.

Chairman Flakoll: How do you feel about the foreign language requirement?

Dr. Brian Dutscher Superintendent of Carrington School District: Opening up or curriculum is more important than two foreign languages. Students should have that choice. They can still take two foreign languages if they choose. One year is introductory level. The requirement of two years is requiring students to go in a direction they may not want to go.

Chairman Flakoll: Do you feel that one year of foreign language gives them a pretty good handle on the language.

Dr. Brian Dutscher Superintendent of Carrington School District: One year is an introductory level and that is their choice to continue on if they choose. They may want to take two different languages, just the first year of both.

Senator Heckaman: This would not prevent those students from taking that second foreign language.

Dr. Brian Dutscher Superintendent of Carrington School District: No it wouldn't. It is still their choice.

Chairman Flakoll: We will close the hearing on SB 2189

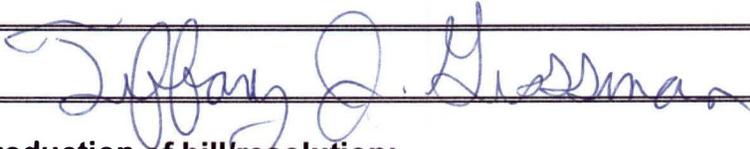
2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Education Committee
Missouri River Room, State Capitol

SB 2189
2-5-13
18307

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to requirements for North Dakota scholarships; and to declare an emergency

Minutes:

You may make reference to "attached testimony."

Chairman Flakoll opened the hearing on SB 2189

Senator Heckaman: I have an amendment. The intent is to parallel the language we talked a about. The administrators didn't like the two foreign language requirement.

Senator Heckaman: Move Heckaman amendment to SB 2189

Senator Marcellais: Second

Chairman Flakoll: On page four the one unit of a foreign language, a native language, or American Sign Language.

Senator Heckaman: It is only one out of the three, foreign, sign, or American Sign Language. We put American Sign Language in last session as a qualifier.

Chairman Flakoll: Below that it says it has two units selected from. Why wouldn't it have one unit selected from?

Senator Heckaman: There is a total of three so on page 3 we are taking out 3 units and putting them in. This only removes a requirement down to one language.

Vice Chairman Schaible: Is Native American Language classified as a requirement for college our out of state college?

Senator Heckaman: It is not but it is approved as a language course in the Tribal Schools so that can be their foreign language.

Vice Chairman Schaible: In North Dakota you need one credit of foreign language which includes Sign Language. Does Native American Language Count to go to state college?

Senator Heckaman: I think only the two top Universities require that. There is no requirement on the two years colleges.

Senator Poolman: Does American Sign Language count as a foreign language for college admission? My only concern is that students will look for the minimum way out and take sign language and choir for two years and suddenly you meet the qualifications and I don't think that is a rigorous schedule and I'm surprised the colleges accept sign language. I thought the purpose of learning the foreign language was to get a good knowledge of grammatical structure.

Vice Chairman Schaible: I am glad Sign Language is included because there is a need for it. It is language you can learn relatively easy without a lot of trouble and if you know good sign language you can get hired for \$40-\$60 an hour at almost any place. I think is an excellent idea.

Chairman Flakoll: Only a couple districts in the state offer it. I think it is Senator Heckaman's neck of the woods.

Senator Heckaman: At the school for the deaf it is their foreign language so when they go to the public school at Devil's Lake they take another foreign language. It is very few students it works for but I think I agree with Vice Chairman Schaible that it is important. My concern is the effective date. Legislative Council spoke to me about the fact that if we are changing this completely it may affect future students so the date went 2015. It should be 2013 instead of 2015. The ones coming in should have already met at least one foreign language.

Chairman Flakoll: Do we know how many that currently qualify might be scrubbed by the additional requirements?

Senator Heckaman: No. I don't know if DPI has that.

Senator Poolman: When we take the most recent test, what happens if they move that test to the 9th grade. In 9th grade you are already out of luck if they don't have that opportunity again. I am worried in 9th grade that could be an issue.

Senator Heckaman: That has come up before. The administrators did not talk about it because at that time there wasn't the option. If the state tests 9th grades that is inaccurate information. I don't know the state will do that. If it is in two parts, I don't know how this bill figures in to that either. The schools are getting graded an AYP on this junior assessment. That is the basis of this bill.

Chairman Flakoll: What percent of the people pass or don't pass?

Senator Heckaman: No. Senator Poolman asked about the year. I am thinking this could go in effect in 2014 and be okay. But I am actually okay with leaving it this way.

A roll call was taken to adopt the Heckaman amendment to SB 2189: 3 yeas, 3 neas 0 absent. Motion Fails.

Vice Chairman Schaible: Motion for a Do not Pass on 2189

Senator Poolman: Second

A roll call was taken for a Do Not Pass on SB 2189: 4 yeas, 2 neas, 0 absent

Vice Chairman Schaible will carry

2189

Date: 2-5-13
Roll Call Vote #: 4

2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO.

Senate Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken adopt amendments

Motion Made By Heckaman Seconded By Marcellais

Senators	Yes	No	Senator	Yes	No
Chairman Tim Flakoll		✓	Senator Joan Heckaman	✓	
Vice Chairman Donald Schaible		✓	Senator Richard Marcellais	✓	
Senator Larry Luick		✓			
Senator Nicole Poolman	✓				

Total (Yes) 3 No 3

Absent 0

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

2189

Date: 2-05-13
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO.

Senate Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number

Action Taken

Do NOT Pass

Motion Made By

Schaible

Seconded By

Poolman

Senators	Yes	No	Senator	Yes	No
Chairman Tim Flakoll	✓		Senator Joan Heckaman		✓
Vice Chairman Donald Schaible	✓		Senator Richard Marcellais		✓
Senator Larry Luick	✓				
Senator Nicole Poolman	✓				

Total (Yes) 4 No 2

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Schaible

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2189: Education Committee (Sen. Flakoll, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT PASS** (4 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2189 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2013 TESTIMONY

SB 2189

#1

SB 2189

Chairman Flakoll and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

I am Senator Joan Heckaman from New Rockford and I represent District 23.

I am here today to introduce SB 2189 to you. This bill would amend the requirements for the North Dakota Scholarship Program.

Currently students must meet a number of criteria in both the areas of academics or career and technical education to receive these scholarships.

On page 2 and the top of page 3 you will see the addition of the requirement that students need to be proficient on all 11th grade state assessments in order to qualify for a career and technical education scholarship.

Changes to the North Dakota Academic Scholarship begin on page 3. You will note that the 2 units of foreign language and sign language on lines 29 and 30 have been removed and replaced on lines 31 and lines 1-5 on the next page with 3 units from a menu of items. And line 17 on page 4 adds the requirement of proficiency on all 11th grade state assessments.

The emergency clause makes this effective immediately upon passage in both chambers and the signature of the Governor.

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members, these amendments come at the request of the administrators from meetings I held prior to the session. The administrators concerns are that schools are evaluated on the performance of 11th grade students on the North Dakota State

Assessments. Students should also be evaluated on their performance and this may instill the importance of these assessments. I have one of those administrators here today and I ask him to present further testimony in favor of these changes.

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Ph # 701-345-8233
701-345-8243
Janet Edlund, Supt.

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Dakota Prairie School District

January 29, 2013

Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB2189 which removes the requirement of two years of the same foreign language and adds the requirement for eligible students to be proficient on the state assessment. The requirement for two years of the same foreign language is not a requirement of enrollment at any of North Dakota's post-secondary institutions. Foreign Language can and should be placed into the same category of completer coursework as the Fine Arts, and Career and Technical Education as it will allow all students to be best prepared for success in their post-secondary education by following a course of study that leads them to their future career choice.

Proficiency of the state assessment is directly related to post-secondary success. I feel that juniors in high school who take the State Assessment seriously and who work hard to be successful of this assessment will also find success in post-secondary coursework.

Sincerely,

Janet Edlund, Supt.

Janet Edlund, Supt.
Dakota Prairie School District

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#3

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Education Committee

My name is Dr. Brian Duchscherer; I am the Superintendent of the Carrington School District. I am here today in support of SB 2189. The North Dakota academic and CTE scholarship program has been a great incentive and benefit to graduating North Dakota seniors. It has provided student's additional means to attended college and help keep our high achieving students in our state.

Unfortunately the scholarship program has also had some unattended consequences. I believe the scholarship program has to many required classes, and has narrowed the focus of some high school students. I would recommend the requirement of two foreign language classes, be changed to one foreign language class. This change would give students more control of their class schedule, opening up a class period for band, chorus, art, or other elective or core classes. If a student chooses, they could still take a second year of foreign language, but this would then be their choice.

I would also recommend the North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA) be added to the scholarship requirement, along with the current ACT test requirement. The NDSA is already required, but would now place added emphasis for the student to achieve at the proficiency level to qualify for the state scholarship.

All schools are currently being held accountable for adequate yearly progress on our student's performance on the NDSA. This additional requirement would create buy in for both the student, and the school district for all students to be proficient.

Thank you for allowing me this time, and I would be willing to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you.