

SENATE BILL NO. 2302

Introduced by

Senators Bakke, Dever, Fiebiger

Representatives Kingsbury, S. Meyer, Wolf

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 and a new section to
2 chapter 50-09 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to free tuition and continued
3 payments for children in foster care.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Free tuition - Children in foster care.** If a child in foster care is accepted for
8 enrollment into any institution of higher education under the control of the state board of higher
9 education, the institution shall allow the child to obtain a baccalaureate degree or certificate of
10 completion, free of any tuition and fee charges; provided, however, that the child is a resident of
11 this state, the child earns a baccalaureate degree or certificate of completion within a
12 forty-five-month or ten-semester period or its equivalent, and that the child maintains a grade
13 point average at least equal to 2.5. For purposes of this section, "tuition and fee charges" does
14 not include costs for aviation flight charges or expenses.

15 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 50-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is
16 created and enacted as follows:

17 **Foster care payments - Extension for educational purposes.** The department of
18 human services shall ensure that any child receiving free tuition under section 1 of this Act is
19 supported by means of foster care payments for the same period of time that the child is eligible
20 for free tuition under section 1. The department may provide payments to the child's foster care
21 family or at the recommendation of the child's caseworker may forward the payments directly to
22 the child.