

March 8, 2021

Honorable Members of the House Education Committee
North Dakota House of Representatives
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

Dear Chairman Owens and Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment on Senate Bill 2141 and for the opportunity to serve the students and educators of North Dakota.

Flexibility in your ability to provide North Dakota with the best tools to support their growth and achievement is important. While ACT recognizes the importance of this flexibility, I would like to provide an overview of what makes the ACT distinct from other standardized exams.

- The ACT is the only nationally recognized college entrance exam that has empirically-derived college and career readiness benchmarks. These benchmarks not only predict a student's ability to succeed in college, but allow educators to align curricula to address gaps that are identified through testing data.
- The ACT is the only college entrance exam that provides a science score based on an actual science test. This ACT science score measures the skills college science instructors regard as critical for success in college level courses.
- The ACT is the only test to provide a predictive STEM score, which policy planners may aggregate and use to measure progress toward North Dakota STEM Network's goal to change and grow the state economy.

The ACT is the only college entrance exam that provides an interest inventory to identify personally relevant career (educational and occupational) options, and predicts a student's success on WorkKeys assessments. The career readiness indicator is significant because success on WorkKeys assessments allows students to earn a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), which *Site Selection Magazine* identifies as one-third of the components that make up its workforce development rankings.

It would be my pleasure to answer any questions you might have about ACT can help your students succeed.

Thank you for your service.

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Director

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