

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT MILLER

Engrossed Senate Bill 2341 – Access to NDPERS Data

Good Morning, my name is Scott Miller. I am the Executive Director of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System, or NDPERS. I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill 2341.

This bill grants NDPERS the specific authority to provide de-identified health insurance information to political subdivisions for their use in obtaining bids for a separate health insurance plan. NDPERS has been providing this information for years, but a recent, more specific request for information caused us to review exactly what we could share. Pursuant to that review, we could not find the specific authority to share the information. This bill clarifies that.

The bill also grants NDPERS the specific authority to share necessary health insurance information with prospective bidders in NDPERS' own request for proposals process in order to obtain the most accurate bids possible. NDPERS currently has the implied authority to do so; this makes that authority explicit.

Finally, I would propose the attached amendment to add an emergency declaration to the bill. When we first started working with Senator Davison on this issue, we thought an August 1 effective date might work. However, in the past few weeks we have had two additional requests for data, which we cannot provide until this bill becomes effective. After communicating with Senator Davison, we agreed an emergency declaration was appropriate. As such, we would request your positive consideration of the attached amendment.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2341

Page 1, line 3, after the semi-colon, remove the word “and”

Page 1, line 4, after “data”, insert “; and to declare an emergency”

Page 2, after line 2, insert the following:

Section 3. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

Re-number accordingly.