

**1999 SENATE EDUCATION
SB 2066**

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2066

Senate Education Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 1/13/99

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		3,801-6244
1		x	10-2007
1/18 2	x		58-668
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Jinda Christman</i>			

Minutes:

SENATOR FREBORG called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. SENATOR COOK opened hearing on SB 2066.

SENATOR FREBORG: Testified on bill and went through the proposed amended bill. Line 10 page 2. Defined used bus. Proposed amendment to change wording of SB 2066.

SENATOR COOK: Any questions?

SENATOR FLAKOLL: On page 1 line 21-23 they refer to patented items or won't there someday be a need for trademark items. Does that have any effect?

SENATOR FREBORG: It does not.

SENATOR COOK: Might there be a company out there that sells used buses that might not even know if a school had a shopping list or a need for such a bus.

SENATOR FREBORG: That is very possible but I don't know what that would change.

Doesn't matter who you're trying to buy the used bus from unless you advertised for bids you can't buy the used bus from anyone including the dealer.

SENATOR KELSH: Who would they have to stick strictly to the criteria that advertising. They couldn't take a bus unless they advertised for a bus that matched.

SENATOR FREBORG: If you advertised for a used bus with a number of specifications there would probably be no used buses that would fit the criteria.

SENATOR KELSH: If they said they wanted a 42 passenger bus they couldn't buy if all the criteria was the same except that is was a 48 passenger. They legally couldn't buy the bus.

SENATOR FREBORG: No, but they would draw up specifications to fit the 48 passenger bus and advertise for 10 days. Then receive bids they could accept one of the bids they received.

SENATOR COOK: Any other questions. Any other testimony in favor of SB 2066.

Dean Bard from the ND Small Organized Schools testified in favor. Testimony enclosed.

SENATOR REDLIN: What is cost range of a school bus?

Dean Bard: I don't know but \$8,000 is pretty minor cost. I'm sure they run in excess of that.

Guess would be \$50,000 plus.

SENATOR REDLIN: So a bus must be 50, 60, 70?

SENATOR COOK: Thank you. Any other testimony?

Ron Torgeson from the ND Council of Education Leaders spoke in favor. No written testimony.

SENATOR COOK: Any questions or testimony against.

Denise Lawson, ND Newspaper Association testified in opposition. Good government to

advertise for bids. We ask for a Do Not Pass. Testimony attached.

SENATOR KELSH: Would you be more comfortable with us raising the threshold. I know we have in other areas. I don't know how old this is but \$8,000 is not a very large amount of money. Should be higher than that. Maybe \$20,000 is more in line of where it should be.

Denise Lawson: We would be in favor. Our issue is not with unit but it would alienate the advertising and public notice and that is what we oppose.

SENATOR FREBORG: Could Tom come back to the podium. We understand why you oppose due to the advertising.

SENATOR COOK: Any other questions for Denise. Any other testimony.

Bev Nelson from the ND School Board Association testified in favor of SB 2066. No written testimony.

SENATOR COOK: Former school board member and have gone through the process of purchasing buses.

Bev Nelson: We contract out buses. But we put out bids for the contract. Many times there are no bids on anything after going through the process and then you have to go out and secure it yourself.

SENATOR KELSH: Printing school board minutes is an expense.

Thank you, any other questions.

SENATOR FREBORG: Could Tom come to the podium. Would you support raising the limit 8-12,000.

Tom: Yes we would.

SENATOR FREBORG: Are you happy with the support we're giving

Tom: Support on what section?

SENATOR FREBORG: You know we don't have to advertise for anything under \$12,000.

Tom: That's correct.

SENATOR FREBORG: Just needed your input.

Tom: I didn't testify either way on this bill. The department doesn't have strong feeling on it and we certainly aren't opposed to it. Schools run from small stripped down 40,000 to well over \$100,000. Pretty expensive.

SENATOR COOK: Any other questions.

SENATOR KELSH: You said \$12,000 would be reasonable. What would you say would be top figure that would be reasonable \$16,000 or is that too high?

Tom: That's a tough issue. I said \$12,000 because that's a small range. \$12,000 dollars per purchase.

SENATOR FREBORG: I propose an amendment on SB 2066. Line 11 page 1 change \$8,000 to \$12,000.

Seconded by SENATOR REDLIN.

SENATOR COOK: Discussion

SENATOR WANZEK: Would we have to change it on line 22?

SENATOR FREBORG: Page 2 line 22 part of my motion.

COOK REDLIN: How does that affect 10 and 14 page 2.

SENATOR FREBORG: Page 2 line 22 we're doing it the same way.

SENATOR REDLIN: A used vehicle would be subject to the \$12,000.

SENATOR FREBORG: That's right.

SENATOR O'CONNELL: Question was raised about who first acquired it. Want to change that too.

SENATOR COOK: Maybe we can take care of this one first and then come back.

SENATOR WANZEK: The amendment simply.

SENATOR FREBORG: Motion to change the 8-12. Any questions.

SENATOR KELSH: If we're talking about high prices I think we'll probably have to amend that to another figure.

SENATOR FREBORG: This does not affect what I did to the bill.

SENATOR KELSH: I think it is excessive. They can't buy a school bus with 100,000 miles for \$60,000.

SENATOR COOK: Any other discussion on amendment to change 8-12,000.

Vote was taken. 6 yes, 1 no O'Connell.

We now have an amended bill before us. What are committees wishes.

SENATOR FREBORG: I think we should question council on the language that was brought to our attention. I don't disagree with SENATOR KELSH.

SENATOR COOK: Would you like to hold this for further discussion.

SENATOR FREBORG: I would really like to get the bill out.

SENATOR WANZEK: As I read the language it can't be the first purchases.

SENATOR FREBORG: Take it back to council. Further discussion on meaning of wording I would support a ceiling.

SENATOR KELSH: Think \$50,000 is awfully high. Most school districts are going to small range.

SENATOR FLAKOLL: Include % of original cost.

Close the discussion of hearing SB 2066.

January 18, 1999

Reviewing the amendment.

SENATOR WANZEK : Removes all that language referring by the first person to a second person on title or sale. Simply says that a used motor vehicle means a motor vehicle that has previously owned or leased and which has no odometer reading in excess of 10,000 miles.

Makes simple and defines what a used vehicle is.

SENATOR COOK : I suppose the amendment should affect page two as well, line 10.

Did we make a motion to change from 8-12.

SENATOR WANZEK : I move that these amendments but we also need to apply those same amendments to page 2, line 11.

SENATOR COOK : Second.

SENATOR FREBORG : Motion has been made and seconded that we adopt the amendment by

SENATOR WANZEK to change his language on page 2, line 11, page 3, line 10.

SENATOR FREBORG : If no discussion I'll ask the clerk to take the roll.

Vote 7 Yes 0 No

SENATOR COOK : I move for a DO PASS as amended.

Seconded by SENATOR FLAKOLL .

SENATOR FREBORG : Motion for a Do PASS on SB2066.

Vote 7 Yes 0 No Carrier: SENATOR FREBORG

Date: 1/13/99
Roll Call Vote #: _____

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2066

Senate EDUCATION Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Proposed amendment to change wording

Motion Made By Sen. Freborg Seconded By Sen. Redlin

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Freborg, Chairman	✓				
Senator Cook, Vice Chairman	✓				
Senator Flakoll	✓				
Senator Wanzek	✓				
Senator Kelsh	✓				
Senator O'Connell		✓			
Senator Redlin	✓				

Total (Yes) 6 No 1

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

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

Date: 1/18/99
Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2066

Senate EDUCATION Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Motion to amend

Motion Made By _____ Seconded By _____

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Freborg, Chairman	✓				
Senator Cook, Vice Chairman	✓				
Senator Flakoll	✓				
Senator Wanzek	✓				
Senator Kelsh	✓				
Senator O'Connell	✓				
Senator Redlin	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

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

Date: 1/18/99
Roll Call Vote #: 2

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2066

Senate EDUCATION Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Motion for a DO PASS ~~and~~ Amended on SB 2066

Motion Made By _____ Seconded By _____

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Freborg, Chairman	✓				
Senator Cook, Vice Chairman	✓				
Senator Flakoll	✓				
Senator Wanzek	✓				
Senator Kelsh	✓				
Senator O'Connell	✓				
Senator Redlin	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Sen Freborg

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2066: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2066 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 11, overstrike "eight" and insert immediately thereafter "twelve"

Page 2, line 11, replace "sold or the title to which has been transferred to another, by the person" with "previously owned or leased"

Page 2, remove line 12

Page 2, line 13, remove "manufacturer or importer,"

Page 2, line 22, overstrike "eight" and insert immediately thereafter "twelve"

Page 3, line 10, replace "sold or the title to which has been transferred to another, by the person" with "previously owned or leased"

Page 3, remove line 11

Page 3, line 12, remove "manufacturer or importer,"

Renumber accordingly

1999 HOUSE EDUCATION

SB 2066

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2066

House Education Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 3-3-99

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
Tap e # 1	x		16.4 to 36.0
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Joan Davis</i>			

Minutes:

Chairman R Kelsch , Vice Chair Drovdal , Rep Brandenburg , Rep Brusegaard , Rep Haas , Rep Johnson , Rep Nelson , Rep Nottestad , Rep L Thoreson , Rep Grumbo , Rep. Hanson , Rep. Lundgren , Rep. Mueller , Rep. Nowatzki , Rep. Solberg .

Chairman R Kelsch : We will open the hearing on SB 2066 and ask the clerk read the title.

Senator Freborg: District 8 sponsor of SB 2066.Sen Freborg explained the bill, allowing the school district to enter into a contract to purchase used motor vehicles. The bill would raise the cap of spending from eight to twelve. A discussion was held to define the term used bus and some information was given on the purchase of new buses.

Ron Torgeson: North Dakota Council Education Leaders, spoke in support of SB 2066.

Denise Lawson: appearing on behalf of the North Dakota Newspaper Association spoke in opposition to SB 2066. (See attached testimony) . Some discussion was held on the position of the North Dakota Newspaper Association has with this bill and the public right to know.

Tom Decker: Director of Finance DPI spoke in favor of SB 2066. Discussion was held on the term used vehicle and what the amount of mileage has to do with the term, also the availability of used buses. Mr. Decker stated that the committee may want to purpose amendments to the mileage.

Chairman R Kelsch: Anyone wishing to speak on SB 2066? Seeing none we will close the hearing on SB 2066.

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2066-3-8-99

House Education Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 3-3-99

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
Tape # 1		x	36.5 to 50.6
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Joan Davis</i>			

Minutes:

Chairman R Kelsch , Vice Chair Drovdal , Rep Brandenburg , Rep Brusegaard, Rep Haas , Rep Johnson , Rep Nelson , Rep Nottestad , Rep Grumbo , Rep. Hanson , Rep. Mueller , Rep. Nowatzki , Rep. Solberg .

Chairman R Kelsch : We will tak up SB 2066, what are the wishes of the committee?

Rep Nelson : Move a DO PASS as amended

Rep. Hanson : Second.

Chairman R Kelsch : Discussion. We haave a Do Pass on the amendments. Voice vote - motion carried. We have a DO PASS motion, ask the clerk to call the roll.DO PASS as amended 15 YES 0 NO 0 Absent passes floor assignment Rep Nelson .

Date: 3-3-99
Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB-2066

House Education Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 90329.0201 title .0300

Action Taken Do Pass as Amended

Motion Made By Nelson Seconded By Hanson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Rep. ReaAnn Kelsch-Chairperson	✓		Rep. Dorvan Solberg	✓	
Rep. David Drovdal-Vice Chair	✓				
Rep. Michael D. Brandenburg	✓				
Rep. Thomas T. Brusegaard	✓				
Rep. C. B. Haas	✓				
Rep. Dennis E. Johnson	✓				
Rep. Jon O. Nelson	✓				
Rep. Darrell D. Nottestad	✓				
Rep. Laurel Thoreson	✓				
Rep. Howard Grumbo	✓				
Rep. Lyle Hanson	✓				
Rep. Deb Lundgren	✓				
Rep. Phillip Mueller	✓				
Rep. Robert E. Nowatzki	✓				

Total (Yes) 15 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Nelson

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2066, as engrossed: Education Committee (Rep. R. Kelsch, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (15 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2066 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 11, replace "twelve" with "twenty-five"

Page 2, line 12, replace "ten" with "twenty-five" and replace "16090" with "40225"

Page 2, line 21, replace "twelve" with "twenty-five"

Page 3, line 9, replace "ten" with "twenty-five" and replace "16090" with "40225"

Renumber accordingly

1999 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2066

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2066CC

Senate Education Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 19, 1999

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0 - 3334
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Linda Christman</i>			

Minutes:

SENATOR FREBORG opened the Conference Committee meeting on SB2066.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that it went from \$12,000 to \$25,000. SENATOR FREBORG stated that in small communities \$25,000 to someone in business is a lot, you may have two or more those. Let's say it's something that you are going to buy, that you are going to buy at the hardware store or the implement dealer. Three people may be selling riding lawnmowers, but the problem is that this a poor example because you could buy that for \$12,000 easy, but there may be some way where you could buy locally, you have two people that could furnish it and it could cost \$22,000. Do you think that we are running the risk of that they are going to pick out one of their friends.

REPRESENTATIVE HAAS stated that every school board that I have worked for actually had a policy that said when purchases were made, that all other things being equal, that the

superintendent and whoever was the buying agent for the school district was to give preference to local businesses and we kind of thought about that too. I think most school boards do that.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that you think it gives them more latitude to shop at home if you raise the amount.

REPRESENTATIVE HAAS stated that we were thinking specifically about the buses when we thought about the \$25,000.

SENATOR FREBORG stated \$25,000 doesn't affect buying a bus, that is exempt.

REPRESENTATIVE HAAS stated that is right. I'm sorry.

REPRESENTATIVE THORESON stated that for our purposes for raising it, we didn't think as far as the mileage, we couldn't buy much of bus.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that I was just trying to settle the \$25,000. It may be an advantage to a small school to be able to spend that much money at their option locally. If they bid it.

SENATOR O'CONNELL stated he thinks it is still too high because on something under that you don't have any bids under \$8,000 or \$12,000 on carpet or a local lawnmower.

REPRESENTATIVE THORESON stated that we considered in placing all the things that the school board is trying to do within their community and this is giving them a little more opportunity to keep things within the community without going through this whole process of bidding and that type of thing. So the \$25,000, I guess that just seemed to be a reasonable figure to get something done nowadays like plumbing.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that I guess my first statement was invalid, I would probably worry more about the larger communities spending \$25,000.

REPRESENTATIVE O'CONNELL stated for carpet or something. The mileage would come down.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that especially in small communities, they don't have that much choice. I would like to see them all buy at home if they can. The higher that gets, the more they can buy at home. I guess I would go along but it takes two of us. I would like to see 18,000 on the mileage.

SENATOR O'CONNELL asked what have we got.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that they raised the mileage to 25,000 miles.

REPRESENTATIVE HAAS stated that we felt that would be difficult to buy a bus with a few miles on it, but I guess that you could do it. What figure are you thinking.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that he hadn't really set a figure. Maybe at 10,000 and you went to 25,000.

REPRESENTATIVE HAAS stated that the reason was because if the school had the bus for even one year, they will be way over 10,000 miles. If you buy a bus with only 10,000 or 12,000 miles on it, it is almost new and the price on those buses will be so high that you almost would want to bid it anyway.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that when you bid a bus, let's say your district has a bus for sale, it has 20,000 miles on it, my district wants to buy it. The only way I can buy that bus is if you will hold it and not sell it to anyone else. I have to draw up specifications to meet that particular bus and go through the legal process. Legally you cannot sell it without advertising it. You need to advertise with those specifications so your bus meets those specifications and we can buy it.

REPRESENTATIVE THORESON stated that he had no problem with going to 18,000, splitting the difference.

SENATOR FREBORG stated that may never happen, but I gave you the scenario where I used my own district, Riverdale. Underwood was allowing them to come tuition free, 100 kids, now they were still transporting students into Riverdale. Let's say that because they didn't intend to reorganize because we accepted them tuition free that they bought a new bus. But what happened, Underwood patrons found out it was costing us a \$100,000 a year to let those kids come free.

REPRESENTATIVE THORESON asked if they came on open enrollment.

SENATOR FREBORG stated they just came there free of tuition. We were willing to take them.

We said we would take their high school kids and it was costing us a \$100,000. Unexpectedly the Underwood School said we can't do this. You will have to pay tuition. They couldn't afford it, so the decision was made for them. They had to go through reorganization. So let's say they had purchased a bus, now it wouldn't have been a problem coming to one district but they went to two districts and let's use the scenario of being geographically located so they could have gone three ways. So what do you do, you sell the bus. And maybe every district said bring the bus with you because we need it, there is nothing to do but sell that bus. So they are selling a bus they had for a year in a little tiny district that has got 14,000 miles on it and they are going to sell it. That could happen.

REPRESENTATIVE THORESON made a motion that the House recede from the House amendments and further amend. REPRESENTATIVE HAAS seconded.

Page 5
Senate Education Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB2066cc
Hearing Date March 19, 1999

Amendment page 1, back to line 11 stay with \$25,000. Page 2, line 12, 25,000 will be 18,000.

Page 2, line 21, replace 12,000 with 25,000. Page 3, line 9, replace 10,000 with 18,000.

Council will have to change to kilometers in both places (page 2, line 12).

SENATOR FREBORG will be the carrier.

SENATOR O'CONNELL made a motion for Further Amendments

REPRESENTATIVE HAAS seconded.

Motion carried. 5 - 0 - 1

SENATOR FREBORG adjourned the conference committee.

(Bill Number) SB 2066 (, as (re)engrossed):

Your Conference Committee

For the Senate:

Sen. Treberg ✓ Yes
Sen. Cook A
Sen. O'Connell ✓ Yes

For the House:

Rep. Thomas ✓ Yes
Rep. Haas ✓ Yes
Rep. Grunbo ✓ Yes

recommends that the (SENATE/HOUSE) (ACCEDE to) (RECEDE from)
723/724 725/726 S724/H726 S723/H725
the (Senate/House) amendments on (S/J/HJ) page(s) 660 - _____

and place _____ on the Seventh order.
727

, adopt (further) amendments as follows, and place
_____ on the Seventh order:

having been unable to agree, recommends that the committee be discharged
and a new committee be appointed. 690/515

((Re)Engrossed) _____ was placed on the Seventh order of business on the
calendar.

DATE: 3 / 19 / 99

CARRIER: Sen Treberg

LC NO. 90329 . 0202 of amendment

LC NO. 90329 . 0200 of engrossment

Emergency clause added or deleted _____

Statement of purpose of amendment _____

(1) LC (2) LC (3) DESK (4) COMM.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

SB 2066, as engrossed: Your conference committee (Sens. Freborg, Cook, O'Connell and Reps. L. Thoreson, Haas, Grumbo) recommends that the **HOUSE RECEDE** from the House amendments on SJ page 660, adopt further amendments as follows, and place SB 2066 on the Seventh order:

That the House recede from its amendments as printed on page 660 of the Senate Journal and page 722 of the House Journal and that Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2066 be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 11, replace "twelve" with "twenty-five"

Page 2, line 12, replace "ten" with "eighteen" and replace "16090" with "28967"

Page 2, line 21, replace "twelve" with "twenty-five"

Page 3, line 9, replace "ten" with "eighteen" and replace "16090" with "28967"

Renumber accordingly

Engrossed SB 2066 was placed on the Seventh order of business on the calendar.

1999 TESTIMONY
SB 2066

2066



*101 members
of 200+ sch. districts*

North Dakota Small Organized Schools

Robert Stringer, President
Box 367
Sykeston, ND 58486
(701) 984-2392

Hal Haberman, Vice President
Box 68
Arthur, ND 58006
(701) 967-8533

Gerald Quintus, Secretary-Treasurer
Box 369
Richardton, ND 58652
(701) 974-2111

Dean F. Bard, Executive Director
1604 River Drive
Mandan, ND 58554
(701) 663-0002
Fax (701) 663-0002

North Dakota Small Organized Schools

Legislative Program 1999

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

1. The 90% cap on state transportation costs should be eliminated and districts should be reimbursed for 100% of cost. The distinction between large and small busses should be eliminated and payment levels should be the same for each. Transportation services for special and vocational education should continue to be funded.
 2. All schools should have access to improved distance learning technology for instructional purposes and this program should continue to be funded. School boards should have the authority to levy up to 5 mills to meet funding costs. In addition, school building fund tax monies should be allowed to be used for the purchase and maintenance of educational technology equipment for student instruction.
 3. Each school district's interim fund has been established and managed to meet local conditions and needs and therefore should not be subjected to additional state-mandated restraints or controls.
 4. Teacher salaries are a matter of paramount importance and it is the responsibility of each local school district to determine such salaries, in accordance with local conditions and needs, so as to attract and retain quality professional instructional personnel.
 5. NDSOS supports legislation that funds special education in an adequate and equitable manner and at a level that enables school districts to meet the needs of special education students. The state should have a responsibility to fund at least 70% of the cost of special education.
 6. The establishment of each school's calendar is a matter of local control. The legislative assembly should permit schools to have more flexibility to determine the length of a school day. Schools should also be given the authority to provide an additional two days of state-funded professional staff inservice training.
 7. NDSOS supports legislation that would allow school boards to increase property taxes by a maximum of three percent each year after reaching the millage cap. The cap should not be less than the average statewide school district tax levy. State foundation aid should be founded on a broad-based, stable, state supported system which insures basic education standards for all students no matter where they may live. These elements should be a part of any plan:
 - 70% of the cost of education should be met by the state foundation aid program.
 - There should be no increase in the millage deduct until the state reaches a level of funding that equals or exceeds 70% of the statewide average cost of education. The value of all local tax-abated real property should be included in the calculation for state foundation aid entitlements.
 - All sources of wealth should be included in the calculation for state foundation aid entitlements.
 8. The association continues to believe that the changing of school district boundaries is a matter for local determination. Therefore, any legislation that permits a reorganization to be effective without a favorable vote of the patrons of the district or districts that are affected, will be opposed.
 9. It is recognized that mandated educational requirements issuing from the state are necessary for the comprehensive delivery of educational services. However, it is also believed that the state should fund at 100% any new mandate that it requires, and, if no funding is made available, then school districts should not be required to comply with the mandate. Interim committees of the North Dakota Legislative Council should review current practices to determine which educational mandates are no longer current or necessary and should be deleted.
 10. While recognizing the importance of the Americans with Disabilities Act, handicapped access requirements, fire and life safety codes and other state and federal mandates, schools should be given a reasonable time to comply with these provisions in areas that are not inordinately hazardous. School districts should be able to obtain loan funds from state construction fund and other sources on a long-term, low-interest rate basis to meet these costs.
 11. NDSOS opposes legislation that establishes charter schools or voucher systems or tax credits for private schools.
 - elementary and secondary principals that are currently credentialed by the Department of Public Instruction should be permanently exempted from any future requirement that a master's degree must be obtained before a credential can be issued.
-

January 13, 1999

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
SB 2066

CHAIRMAN FREBORG AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

My name is Jack McDonald. I'm appearing today on behalf of The North Dakota Newspaper Association. We oppose **SB 2066** and ask that you give it a DO NOT PASS.

We believe that it is just good government to advertise for bids for the purchase of government goods and services. Not only does this ensure that the lowest price is obtained, but it also makes sure that everyone who might want to bid is given the opportunity to do so. Without bids, the vendor list soon becomes pretty "select."

We respectfully request your **DO NOT PASS**. If you have any questions, I'll be happy to answer them. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION.

March 3, 1999

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIRWOMAN KELSCH AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

My name is Denise Lawson. I'm appearing today on behalf of the North Dakota Newspaper Association. We oppose SB 2066.

The law currently allows for several reasonable exceptions when a school board is considering entering into a contract, alleviating the need for public notices for certain contracts and products. However, we believe that allowing an exemption for the public notice when contracting for a used motor vehicle is a substantial business investment. As such, and the process should be open to the public through public notice, ultimately informing school district constituents of a substantial business decision, and allowing notice for an opportunity for business.

We do not oppose the reasonable increase from \$8,000 to \$12,000 before bidding is required, recognizing inflation and the increase of the costs of products over time.

We respectfully request a DO NOT PASS on this bill.

I would be happy to answer any questions. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION.