

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2249

2007 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2249

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2249

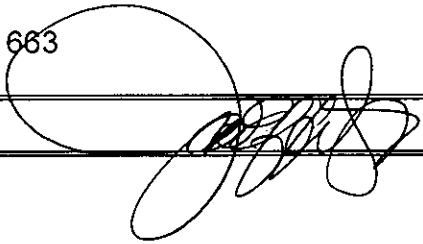
Senate Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 23, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 1662, 1663

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Freborg opened the hearing on SB 2249, a bill to provide appropriations to the state board for career and technical education for a higher education curriculum design and development and a workplace training grant program. All members were present.

Senator Grindberg introduced the bill. This is the "here and now" bill. Next week, this committee will hear the "out of the box" bill. He has developed a niche in the area of workforce training and career development. He attended a meeting of the Workforce Development Council in Medora this summer and that led to this bill. The bill is intended to expand the outreach of the universities to support business. It provides \$2 million to each institution and he expects some tweaks from the committee. The number is in the ballpark. The bill attempts to raise the bar, to allow the two year universities to increase their effectiveness. The campuses can't respond without resources.

Senator Gary Lee asked how close to the ballpark is the number? How did he arrive at the number?

Senator Grindberg said in the last three bienniums, there has been \$1,350,000 for workforce training for the quadrant system. When he alerted the two year campuses that he was drafting legislation, he asked them to think about their needs to take it to the next level.

Senator Taylor asked what is included in curriculum development where 85% of the dollars will go.

Senator Grindberg said anything required to build or expand a curriculum including equipment, instructional needs.

Senator Taylor confirmed it would not include bricks and mortar.

Senator Grindberg said not bricks and mortar.

Senator Flakoll said it is more than just discussions and planning, it is actually putting the curriculum in place.

Senator Grindberg said he would look to the campuses for a specific answers. For example, there is a lot of discussion of truck driver training. More resources are needed for the program at Wahpeton, more resources to get the program qualified for student aid,

Senator Flakoll said he has concerns about where the money would be spent, are we creating more bureaucracy?

Senator Grindberg said he doesn't think so. He thinks the four quadrant system has worked very well but they have no ability to expand due to lack of funds.

Ron Ness, North Dakota Petroleum Council, testified in favor of the bill. It is a move in the right direction. The energy industry has a bright future but we need to attract and train workers.

Their industry has hired 2500 employees in the last 30 months. He will have a completed workforce skills and needs assessment the end of this month and will get a copy to the

committee. They will need to replace over 100% of their workforce in the next 4 years,

between retirees and new hires. They have seen this problem coming much before the new

surge in energy activity because their workforce is aging. In the energy industry, skills are

interchangeable among all the components of the industry. The jobs in their industry are

paying well above \$50,000 a year plus full benefits. 70% of the people they need to hire over

the next 4 – 5 years are entry level, basic skill jobs. If you can take someone off the street, train them for a period of weeks to months put them in a job with full benefits and making \$50,000 per year, that is a center of excellence. This bill could be an answer to the center of excellence debate that we had over the interim. Their members in Williston have been very involved in setting up the training program in Williston, they are donating equipment. It is an employer driven concept. But the college is short of resources, short of instructors. They do not enough people from an organizational standpoint to get all the work done. It is being set up to insure it has some long term stability. Major international service companies have committed to sending their new recruits to this training instead of Houston or Casper. When you train people in Williston, they stay there. North Dakota is somewhat ahead of the game. This is something that could hold back the energy industry in the state if it is not taken care of.

Senator Gary Lee asked with the \$2 million, will they be able to attract enough students to keep the program ongoing?

Mr. Ness said that is the next great challenge. They are going to be competing with every other industry and state. Thus far, they have very high paying jobs. We have to get the mechanism in place. There are also the issues of life style, housing and it will be a challenge. Between 60 – 70% of students in North Dakota don't end up with a 4 year degree and would be eligible to end up in jobs like these.

Senator Gary Lee said as the oil business ebbs and flows, are these skills transferable or will they need to leave the state or need to retrain?

Mr. Ness said the oil industry has had peaks and valleys. This is different because such a large part of their workforce wants to retire. The other energy sectors are growing. This is a longer vision for the state.

Senator Taylor asked with the new program at Williston, are trainees coming from other states? How do you measure the workers coming from the out of state programs vs. kids off the farm? Is there a way to measure success?

Mr. Ness said the oil industry employees have to have this training. Farm kids are the best but they aren't always available anymore. They started a truck driving program in Williston; they take 12 students every 6 weeks. Companies are lined up to hire them on the last day of school. They are fantastic jobs.

Tom Balzer, North Dakota Motor Carriers Association, testified in favor of the bill. This bill is very valuable for his industry. 10% of available North Dakota trucks sit empty because there are not enough drivers. Nationwide, half million drivers are needed. The average teamster driver is 57 years old. Every truck brings in \$220,000 of revenue, 90% of which goes back into the economy. The average driver makes \$34,500 in Fargo after 2 months of schooling, entry level. With three years of experience, an actual driver from Fargo made \$71,000 last year. It a growing industry and major player as far as high paying jobs. Great West Casualty, one of the largest insurance companies that insure the trucking industry, recently looked at the driving school in Fargo and decided it did not qualify under their insurance. We need a qualifying school in the state. The curriculum needs to be developed . Students in the program do not now qualify for federal aid so we need to accomplish that as well.

Curt Gunning, Alien Technology, Fargo, testified in favor of the bill. Meter 21:10 We need to keep North Dakota natives and students in the state and promote from within. He is part of a energy technology advisory board that develops the curriculum for nanoscience in Wahpeton. This needs to happen for people to grow within the company.

Wayne Kutzer, Director of the Department of Career and Technical Education, testified in favor of the bill. (Written testimony attached) To answer some questions that have already been

asked, technical education programs are expensive. They have had \$1.3 million since the system started. Are we going to be able to keep the people in the state that have this training. These skills are very transferable.

Senator Flakoll asked if a budget has been drafted specific to this bill?

Mr. Kutzer said no.

Senator Gary Lee asked in SB 2200, are there new career and tech dollars it? Does that come together with this request?

Mr. Kutzer said SB 2200 deals with career and tech at the secondary education level in the western part of the state. It will help build a base but it is not directed to this bill.

Dave Clark, Executive Vice President of Bismarck State College, testified in favor of the bill.

(Written testimony attached)

Senator Flakoll asked with the 2009 sunset, what about ongoing costs?

Mr. Clark said many programs have been developed with external funding sources, Those costs are significant. They choose the programs that they feel have adequate students to support the programs once they are developed. As they view these dollars, development costs include equipment, lab components. For ongoing expenses, they look to tuition and fees. Businesses are happy to pay for the training.

Senator Gary Lee asked if he is saying the \$2 million is enough to put the programs in place but they would partner with business for some equipment and their budget would sustain the teachers and instructors/

Mr. Clark said that is correct. The section 3 money is for a competitive grant process.

Workforce training is mostly non credit.

Senator Bakke asked what is the capacity of students that can be handled.

Mr. Clark said they typically work very closely with business and industry and they have major input into the length of the program and what their requirements are. It will vary by program.

Senator Bakke asked what numbers of students would go through the program.

Mr. Clark said the potential is huge, there is major opportunity.

Senator Taylor asked on the cost side, what is the cost of specialized instructors?

Mr. Clark said it is a challenge in career tech; there is a need to hire subject matter experts, especially when doing in house development work. They deal with it somewhat by hiring on 12 month contracts. It is becoming more and more of an issue.

Harvey Lind, North Dakota State College of Science, testified in favor of the bill. (Written testimony attached) He also submitted a letter from Ron Cizek, Imation Corporation.

Senator Gary Lee asked about the trends in enrollment at Wahpeton.

Mr. Link said it is about 2400 and stable, FTEs are dropping a little.

Senator Gary Lee asked the cause of the drop.

Mr. Link said it is a supply issue, there has been a decrease in high school graduates.

Senator Gary Lee asked how you get students for new programs?

Mr. Link said it is a new and emerging area, they are doing extensive recruiting. They are using distance education. The goal is new programming, new area and attracting new students.

Senator Gary Lee said if work force needs are shifting, how do you adjust your programs?

Mr. Link said they have curtailed some programs. They have added new sections of programs with waiting lists. They go through an annual program review. New programs have new equipment needs.

Senator Taylor asked the amount of the earmark in nanotechnology.

Mr. Link said \$198,200.



Senator Taylor asked about the diesel tech program, is it a waiting list program? A couple of young men from his community attended the program in Cheyenne, at Wyo Tech.

Mr. Link said it is a competitive situation. Their diesel tech program runs right up at the edge. They just shifted an instructor from the automotive program to the diesel program. Wyoming Tech is one of their competitors.

Chairman Freborg closed the hearing on SB 2249.

Chairman Freborg opened the discussion on SB 2249.

Chairman Freborg said we will get additional information after lunch from Senator Grindberg.

The \$2 million in section 3 was not his part of the bill so he is checking with the others who helping in drawing up the bill. The bill is for \$10 million, do we want to pass it out that way?

Senator Gary Lee said he does not know what the number should be. Conceptually he likes the idea, there is a significant need in the technical programs in the oil industry. If we can help them some way, this may be the vehicle. We certainly need to know what dollar figure is a priority for them.

Senator Bakke asked if he was talking about striking section 3?

Chairman Freborg said no, he is finding out where it came from.

Senator Gary Lee said they could run with the \$2 million if the \$8 million wasn't in there, Could they get by with the competitive grants?

Chairman Freborg asked if he thought the competitive grants were a better program?

Senator Gary Lee said some of these programs are fairly short term, truck driving would be shorter duration as compared to nanotech.

Chairman Freborg said they are. Once the power plant program at Bismarck graduates a few power plant operators, they will need to change the program for two or three years, it doesn't take that many operators.

Senator Taylor said one thing that is missing is the Department of Commerce did not testify this morning and he would be interested in knowing how we are going to prioritize the programs. This seems like a good place to leverage a match.

Senator Bakke said the \$8 million at the top, she sees it going to each institution, and she doesn't see how the \$2 million in section 3 would be distributed.

Chairman Freborg said it would be a supplemental grant that would have to be applied for and justified.

Senator Bakke asked if the \$2 million could be covered by the industry as Senator Taylor suggested.

Senator Flakoil said he likes the match concept. Some programs aren't as conducive to a match. Bismarck and Williston could be competing for the same dollars.

Chairman Freborg said the big employment area is with oil fields, they can't get enough help. Williston would be a logical place for that money.

Senator Gary Lee said maybe we should not include the names of the institutions.

Chairman Freborg asked how much money should we put in the bill, should it all go in section to go out in grants? We are over \$1 billion over budget, if we aren't careful, we won't have any bill, and it still has to get by appropriations.

Senator Taylor said different programs will have a different cost. A grant program would allow the schools to use the dollars that are needed. A 1:1 match, this becomes a \$4 million bill, and there is a lot of value to industry here.

Chairman Freborg said last session he was told the energy people furnished the simulator for the power plant school. Some priorities should be set and that could only happen if this goes out in grants.

Senator Flakoll said we may want to include some not to exceed language. We also should deal with "in kind" contributions which are very similar to cash. There should be a consideration for an accountability audit. He wishes there was a little more detail. He knows Senator Grindberg is sick today. We do not want duplication of services.

Senator Gary Lee asked if there is merit to targeting a sector or do we let the institutions decide?

Senator Flakoll said its hard to figure out what we want to target, not all needs were identified today. In a global perspective nanotech has phenomenal potential, 2 sessions ago we had never heard of it.

Senator Gary Lee asked if programs like nanoscience have a better chance of being included in the Centers of Excellence. Truck drivers and oil rig workers might not fit into the Centers of Excellence.

Senator Taylor said the Centers of Excellence prohibits use of funds for workforce training along with bricks and mortar. To react quickly, maybe we should have the programs approved by the Department of Commerce.

Chairman Freborg said if they are grants, should we do that in conjunction with section 3., involve Career and Technology too? He doesn't understand giving them each \$2 million.

Senator Bakke said she would like to remove section 1 and allow them to apply for a grant not to exceed \$1 million if they have a match.

Senator Taylor said we should specify the category of schools, trade or two years, so this is not available to the research universities.

Senator Gary Lee asked about the travel or business schools, is that the reason for naming the schools in the bill.

Chairman Freborg said we do not want to include areas that already exist.

Senator Gary Lee said he agrees, that is why Senator Taylor wants to involve the Commerce Department to help identify critical areas.

Senator Gary Lee said maybe we would include \$2 million, working with Commerce Department that might be salable.

Chairman Freborg asked if its reasonable to require a match including in kind?

Senator Flakoll said it could be scaled, it doesn't have to be \$1 million.

Chairman Freborg said if someone furnishes a simulator that is worth \$300,000, that would count as a match.

Senator Flakoll said still an overall goal of \$8 million but would require a 1:1 match, no campus gets more than ¼ of the dollars, include a list of eligible campuses, include the Commerce Department to point people in the right direction since they know the needs of industry.

Chairman Freborg asked if Commerce would be in charge rather than Career and Tech?

Senator Flakoll said he would like Commerce at the table.

Chairman Freborg said at \$10 million its going nowhere. His concern is we are \$1 billion over budget, maybe \$1.5 or \$1.7 billion, they will pick out the aggressive bills. If a bill is reasonable and sensible, there is more chance of survival. Its something we need, we have to justify it.

Senator Gary Lee asked if the bill were amended in appropriations and the money taken out, how would we support the bill,

Chairman Freborg said that is rare, we would have to kill it, without money its meaningless.

He reviewed carrying bills that have been rereferred to appropriations.

There was discussion among the committee of the dollar amount to include in the bill.

Senator Flakoll said he would prefer taking the portion out that refers to promotion.

Senator Taylor said the School of Science got what they called a modest earmark of \$198,000. They were still appreciative of it and it got the ball rolling. He thinks \$4 million from the state, if it were leveraged to \$8 million would be reasonable and significant.

Senator Flakoll said he would like to see all the campuses listed in the bill continue to be included by name and the rest of the committee agreed.

Senator Bakke said she likes the idea of \$4 million with a match.

Senator Taylor said the in kind language would give them some flexibility.

Senator Bakke said she likes the idea that 85% would go to curriculum development, they will need some money for promotion.

Chairman Freborg said he doesn't want to waste the money on promotion if they don't need it.

Senator Flakoll said the bill says up to 15% for promotion, its almost like we are encouraging them to use money for promotion and he doesn't like that. He doesn't think we should mention promotion.

Senator Gary Lee said he doesn't like section 2. There may be an old program that could be dusted off and all it needs is some equipment.

Senator Bakke said part of curriculum development is equipment.

Senator Flakoll said maybe we should specify that, at first he thought the money would be used to write a syllabus and we want to be sure to include equipment. The committee agreed.

Chairman Freborg pointed out no report is required in the bill.

Senator Flakoll reviewed the group consensus and will have amendments drafted to include all campuses named in the bill, provide \$4 million with a 1:1 match including in kind, up to \$1 million, 85% of expenditures to cover curriculum development including equipment and materials, emphasis on high need or emerging needs areas for workforce training, delete section 3 and add Career and Technology Education and the Department of Commerce to

section 1, plans and budgets to be submitted to the Department of Commerce and Career and Technology Education, report to the interim Economic Development Committee, maintain the sunset.

Chairman Freborg asked Senator Flakoll to talk to Senator Grindberg before drafting the amendments and the committee will review the proposed amendments.

Senator Flakoll said he would like to add to the amendment a clause that the grants should avoid adverse duplication. The committee concurred.

Chairman Freborg closed the discussion on SB 2249.

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2249

Senate Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 24, 2007

Recorder Job Number

Committee Clerk Signature

Minutes:

Chairman Freborg opened the discussion on SB 2249. All members were present.

Senator Flakoll reported Anita Thomas was not available but he has a call in to her. He has spoken to Senator Grindberg.

Chairman Freborg asked if Senator Flakoll has enough information so the committee could come to some sort of agreement on the amendment.

Senator Flakoll said he believes so. In talking with Senator Grindberg, relative to the appropriation, there is currently in the budget \$1.35 million for those programs. The bill before us asks to increase that to \$2 million so an additional \$.65 million is all we need. He is comfortable leaving the \$2 million in the bill and letting appropriations wrestle with it.

Chairman Freborg asked what would be wrong with language that says we will add \$650,000 to the proposed budget, then we know what will happen instead of getting another \$2 million on top of \$1.35 million.

Senator Flakoll asked if we would reference the House bill?

Chairman Freborg said we would say we were adding \$650,000 to the proposed budget. He prefers it.

Senator Flakoll said it is more palatable.

Chairman Freborg said it is to him. That is what we want to do.

Senator Flakoll said the \$4 million in section 1 would require a 1:1 match, including in kind matches. All campuses listed in the bill would still be included. Any campus would be eligible for up to 25%. Change the payments language to grants, involve Career and Technology Education in the process. Emphasis on high need or emerging needs in workforce training. Plans and budgets approved by Department of Commerce and Career and Technology Education. Maintain the sunset, Consider adverse duplication.

The committee was comfortable with the proposed amendment.

Since Senator Flakoll could still not get in to see Anita Thomas, the committee decided to adopt the amendment and then get it drafted.. Senator Flakoll will locate each committee member on Thursday and have them sign off on the amendment draft.

Senator Flakoll moved the proposed amendment. Senator Gary Lee seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0 on a roll call vote.

Senator Flakoll moved a Do Pass As Amended and Rerefer to Appropriations. Senator Bakke seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0. Senator Flakoll will carry the bill.



**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Requested by Legislative Council**  
03/12/2007

Amendment to: Reengrossed  
SB 2249

1A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2005-2007 Biennium		2007-2009 Biennium		2009-2011 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures			\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	
Appropriations			\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000	

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2005-2007 Biennium			2007-2009 Biennium			2009-2011 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

Provides \$1.0 million appropriation to address workforce training needs from funding in HB1003.

B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

Additional state appropriations noted in Section C below would be allocated and spent in support of program start-up costs.

C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

Engrossed HB1003 does not include \$1,000,000 in uncommitted funding which can be allocated to this program. Without additional new funding added to Engrossed HB1003, the required grants cannot be provided as directed by SB2249 Second Engrossment with House Amendment. Funding in the NDUS Office (subsection 1 of HB1003) is specified for student financial aid programs, pass-through to the campuses for specific projects (e.g. technology, EPSCoR) and for State Board of Higher Education and Chancellor Office staffing and operating costs.

<b>Name:</b>	Laura Glatt	<b>Agency:</b>	NDUS
<b>Phone Number:</b>	328-4116	<b>Date Prepared:</b>	03/13/2007

*JB*  
1-26-07

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2249

Page 1, line 3, after "program" insert "; and to provide for a report"

Page 1, line 6, replace "\$8,000,000" with "\$4,000,000"

Page 1, line 8, replace "equal payments" with "a \$1,000,000 grant each"

Page 1, line 10, after "to" insert "critical"

Page 1, line 14, after "institution" insert ", the state board for career and technical education,"

Page 1, line 15, after "to" insert "critical" and after "needs" insert ", including a dollar-for-dollar match from higher education institutions. In-kind matches may be allowed if appropriate. In preparing plans, higher education institutions should emphasize meeting the high and emerging needs of the workforce and should make an effort to limit adverse duplication of programs"

Page 1, line 16, remove the comma

Page 1, line 17, remove "up to ten percent for promotion," and after "and" insert "may use"

Page 1, line 19, replace "\$2,000,000" with "\$650,000"

Page 1, after line 23, insert:

**"SECTION 4. REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.** The state board for career and technical education shall provide a report to a committee designated by the legislative council during the 2007-08 interim regarding the use of the funds appropriated in sections 1 and 3 of this Act."

Renumber accordingly

Date: 1/23/07  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2249

Senate Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number (70207.0202.0300)

Action Taken Do Pass As Amended - Refer to Appropriations

Motion Made By Sen. Flakoll Seconded By Sen. Bakke

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Freborg	✓		Senator Taylor	✓	
Senator Flakoll	✓		Senator Bakke	✓	
Senator Gary Lee	✓				

Total Yes 5 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Flakoll

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

Date: 1/24/07  
 Roll Call Vote #:

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2249

Senate Education Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number (170207.0202.0300)

Action Taken Move Amendment

Motion Made By S Flakoll Seconded By S Lee

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Freborg	✓		Senator Taylor	✓	
Senator Flakoll	✓		Senator Bakke	✓	
Senator Gary Lee	✓				

Total Yes 5 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

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

- 1. sec. 1 line 6 reinsert 53M, insert 54M requiring 1:1 match which may include 10 kids match, see agenda
- 2. ~~equal part~~ grad  
 line 10 - Outreach w/ needs
- Sec. 2 — line 17 - up to 16% de promotion.  
add: emphasis on hi, need or every need for w/ Dept of Cor + CTE approval plan + budget + limit address duplicity of program
- sec. 3 addition \$650,000 over on other exps  
approval request.  
report to L.C.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2249: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends DO PASS and BE REREFERRED to the Appropriations Committee (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2249 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.**

Page 1, line 3, after "program" insert "; and to provide for a report"

Page 1, line 6, replace "\$8,000,000" with "\$4,000,000"

Page 1, line 8, replace "equal payments" with "a \$1,000,000 grant each"

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Page 1, line 16, remove the comma

Page 1, line 17, remove "up to ten percent for promotion," and after "and" insert "may use"

Page 1, line 19, replace "\$2,000,000" with "\$650,000"

Page 1, after line 23, insert:

**"SECTION 4. REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.** The state board for career and technical education shall provide a report to a committee designated by the legislative council during the 2007-08 interim regarding the use of the funds appropriated in sections 1 and 3 of this Act."

Renumber accordingly

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2249

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2249

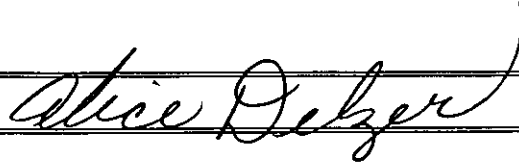
Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02—05-07

Recorder Job Number: 2822

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Vice Chairman Grindberg** opened the hearing on SB 2249 at 8:35 am on February 5, 2007 regarding Career and Tech Ed for Higher Education Curriculum design Work Force Training Grant. He immediately turned the hearing over to **Vice Chairman Bowman** as he gave testimony in support of SB 2249.

**Senator Grindberg, District 41, Fargo.** I am here today to testify in favor of SB 2249. It is direct appropriations into the Workforce Training System in the State of North Dakota.

**Senator Bowman** asked if this was in the governor's budget. He was informed it is not.

**Ron Ness, North Dakota Petroleum Council** presented written testimony (1) and gave oral testimony in support of SB 2249.

**Senator Robinson** had questions regarding the shortage we have in these job classifications and it is not just North Dakota, it is the entire Midwest and we are not making quantum gains, what is happening in the rest of the states?

**Senator Krauter** had questions directed to Legislative Council regarding current appropriations in the governor's budget.

**Tom Balzer, Representative of North Dakota Carriers Association** gave oral testimony in support of SB 2249. He also testified that they don't have enough people in North Dakota to drive their trucks.

