

2005 Legislative Review

A Look At Higher Education In Week 13: March 28 – April 1, 2005

House Amends, Passes SB 2003

The House passed, as amended, SB 2003, the NDUS budget bill, April 1. In its current form, SB 2003:



On April 1:

**SB 2003
passed
the House
on a vote of
85–6
(3 absent).**

- Requires \$150,000 of current \$1.2 million education incentive program funding (teacher shortage, technology occupation and doctoral programs) to be allocated to “private baccalaureate degree-granting institutions offering doctorate programs for doctoral incentives”
- Amends state statute to require 25 percent of state grant funding to be allocated to private campuses, up from 22 percent in the current biennium
- Increases undesignated funding for “new” SBHE initiatives by \$269,060, for a total proposed balance of \$1.7 million in 2005–07
- Reduces funding for common information services (HECN, IVN and ODIN) by \$400,000, in addition to the \$950,000 cut by the Senate
- Reduces funding in the operations pool in the System Office budget by \$189,858, leaving a remaining undesignated balance of \$388,559 to be allocated by the SBHE
- Reduces the increase in student financial aid from \$1,747,500 in the Senate version to \$475,614
- Adds \$151,000 for three additional veterinary medicine slots in the 2005–06 academic year with continuation in the second year
- Adds \$2 million in equity funding to be allocated by the SBHE
- Adds \$119,826 to DSU for a custodial position and utility costs at Murphy Hall
- Adds \$90,000 at WSC for Stevens Hall repairs
- Adds \$150,000 at MaSU for Old Main repairs
- Adds \$80,000 at MiSU for Student Union Ballroom repairs
- Adds \$1.05 million in non-state general funds at WSC for an oil well training site
- Adds \$1.7 million in non-state general funds at NDSCS for stadium/track repairs
- Removes a performance audit of the UND School of Medicine added by the Senate
- Provides \$2 million in equity funding to be distributed by the SBHE no sooner than Jan. 1, 2006
- Encourages the SBHE to consider allowing faculty members and practicing professionals to participate in the selection of students awarded funding through the professional student exchange program; also encourages the SBHE to consider entering contracts with out-of-state institutions for programs not offered by the NDUS, especially veterinary medicine
- Encourages the Legislative Council to study higher education funding and accountability and appropriates \$175,000 for that study
- Provides that 25 percent (up from 22 percent in 2003–05) of state grant funding must be allocated to students who attend private colleges; also makes this a permanent part of state statute as opposed to a section in the appropriation bill that needs to be renewed every two years

House Passes NDSU Ag Budget Bill

The House passed, as amended, SB 2020, the NDSU Agricultural Research and Extension budget bill, March 30. In its current form, SB 2020:

- Increases total state general funds above the Senate budget by \$1,086,861; increases total House and Senate state general funds above the executive budget by \$1,671,822
- Adds \$300,000 in state general funds to the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute to meet the required budget guidelines to qualify as a regional university transportation center
- Removes \$100,000 in state general funds for soil conservation districts that had been added by the Senate
- Removes \$200,000 in state general funds and two FTE positions for the Beef Center of Excellence, reducing the increase added by the Senate from \$400,000 to \$200,000
- Adds \$200,000 in state general funds for one dry-bean geneticist
- Adds \$59,799 in state general funds for western malting barley research
- Adds \$425,165 in state general funds for extraordinary repairs
- Adds \$350,000 in state general funds for operating and equipment, allocation to be determined by SBARE
- Removes \$48,103 in state general funds because the rate of increase in health insurance premiums is less than originally projected
- Adds \$100,000 for ethanol malting barley research

House Passes the State Bonding Bill

The House passed, as amended, SB 2023, the state bonding bill, March 30. In its current form, SB 2023:

- Adds \$200,000 in state bonding (which had been reduced by the Senate) for the NDSU Hazardous Material Storage and Handling Building (total project authorization: \$3.5 million); removes \$350,000 added by the Senate for the Central Grasslands Research Extension Center addition
- Adds language that an architect and construction manager cannot be the same person/entity on a public project

NDUS Projects in SB 2023:

- NDSCS electrical system upgrade – \$736,000
- DSU Murphy Hall renovation – \$4,100,557
- MiSU-BC Thatcher Hall addition – \$2.5 million (added by the Senate)
- Main Station Research Greenhouse complex – \$2 million in state general funds; \$5 million in funds from other sources
- North Central Agronomy Lab and Greenhouse – \$440,000 in state general funds; \$1.25 million in funds from other sources
- UND Energy Conservation Project – \$2,331,554 (to be repaid through utility savings)
- NDSU Hazardous Material Storage and Handling Building – \$3.5 million