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Joint Committee on Appropriations
REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS KARR, CO-CHAIR SENATOR JEAN HUNHOFF, CO-CHAIR

May 19, 2022
Brian Maher, Executive Director
Board of Regents
306 E Capitol Ave, Suite 200
Pierre, SD 57501

Letter of Intent Regarding an Annual Report on Needs-Based Scholarships

Dear Executive Director Maher,

This Letter of Intent sets forth a particular view held by the Joint Committee on Appropriations (JCA) in approving your appropriation in the 2021 Legislative session. As such, this Letter of Intent seeks to supplement that legislation with specific policy guidance as approved on May 11, 2021 and amended on May 19, 2022.

While the guidance does not have the direct force of statutory law, it rests solidly on a long-standing tradition of Legislative-Executive relationships in South Dakota and it will be used by the Joint Committee as one basis for the fiscal oversight of your agency and its continued funding.

Beginning in 2022, it is the intent of the JCA to have the following items related to all needs-based scholarships from each eligible institution included in the Board of Regent's factbook:

- The number of pell-eligible students at each institution;
- The number of students receiving needs-based scholarships by:
  - academic semester;
  - institution;
  - amount awarded;
  - those who did not finish or complete their degree;
  - those who are currently working in the state as part of a three-year work obligation; and
  - those who did not fulfill a three-year work obligation;

If the Board of Regents does not include the above information in the factbook, an annual report will be required to be presented to JCA each year in May or June. There is no expectation of the committee to have the freedom scholarship program report to or provide information to the BOR regarding this letter of intent. Details pertaining to the freedom scholarship program do not need to be included in the factbook.

Thank you for your cooperation.

/s/Chris Karr

Representative Chris Karr
Lead Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

/s/Jean Hunhoff

Senator Jean Hunhoff
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

cc: Russell Olson, Auditor General
Jim Terwilliger, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management