



# NORTH DAKOTA STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

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February 2, 2021

To the Honorable Mark Owens and Member Representatives of the House Education Committee

RE: House Bill 1478; Alternative Education Opportunities Outside the Classroom for Course Credit

Representing workers in the commercial, industrial, and residential construction industries from foundation to finish, we are committed to promoting, recruiting, and developing careers in the skilled trades. This legislation would provide for additional experiences to students to promote careers in construction. As such, the North Dakota State Building and Construction Trades Council is in support of HB 1478.

Promoting promote careers in construction has become increasingly important as the needs for more skilled workers continues to be a challenge. As more of our members retire from the tools and an overall waning interest in the trades, we are exploring strategies to connect with students. We see the prospect to promote pre-apprenticeship programs as a precursor to registered apprenticeship programs as invaluable experience to encourage exploration in the skilled trades. Having certified educational opportunities outside the classroom that meet course content standards would be an effective means to fulfill innovative education strategies. With this bill, it would boost our existing strategies for promotion and recruitment of careers in construction and we respectfully urge a do pass recommendation for HB 1478.

With Kindest Regards, I am

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