



To: Senate Education
From: Shannon Full, President/CEO, FMWF Chamber of Commerce
Date: March 9, 2021
RE: **Support HB 1478**

Chairman Schaible and members of the Senate Education Committee,

For the record, my name is Shannon Full and I serve as the President of the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce. I rise today in **support of HB 1478**.

On behalf of our over 2,000 Chamber member businesses, I urge your support for this legislation which has the potential to unlock tremendously impactful collaborations between the K-12 sector and the business community. Within our region, we strive to serve as a catalyst for growth and prosperity and are uniquely positioned to bring together employers and educators, in a meaningful way, to help them further explore potential credit bearing experiential learning opportunities.

In 2018, our Chamber developed an Education committee designed to bring educators and employers together as we seek to address the workforce needs of our community and region. An initial goal developed by the committee was for The Chamber to serve as a conduit for helping businesses develop, and deploy, impactful experiential learning opportunities for 6th through 12th grade students. To this extent, we recently launched a program designed to work alongside businesses as they develop, or enhance, their own internship program. If passed, this legislation will serve as a crucial component in further unlocking the true potential collaborations between educators and employers as they strive to benefit the students of our state.

On behalf of our Chamber membership, we respectfully urge a **do pass on HB 1478**.

Thank you for your consideration of this innovative legislation and I'm happy to stand for any questions.

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