



**Senate Finance and Taxation Committee – HB 1380**

**Senator Jessica Bell, Chair**

**March 17, 2021**

Chair Bell, Members of the Committee:

My name is Brian Ritter and I am President of the Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC. Please accept the following testimony in support of HB 1380 on behalf of our organization's approximately 1,200 members.

Infrastructure is a key focus of the Chamber EDC's 2021 Legislative Agenda given how valuable investments in infrastructure funding are. More specifically, investing in infrastructure projects put 'blue collar' trades such as road contractors, excavators and more to work in addition to 'white collar' consultants such as engineers, architects, etc. And make no mistake; these types of investments are needed in communities like Bismarck-Mandan which continue to grow.

Specifically, HB 1380 provides the mechanism by which future earnings from the Legacy Fund can be invested in areas such as: school construction, career and technical education and the Housing Incentive Fund. Again, all of these are areas of importance for Bismarck-Mandan's growing business community and would provide a direct return to all residents of the State who have paid into the Legacy Fund itself.

I thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of HB 1380 and would respectfully ask for a 'Do Pass' recommendation.