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January 8, 2021

To: Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Re: SB 2093 - ND Parks & Recreation

Dear Chairman Vedaa and Committee Members,

ND Parks and Recreation is an active and important partner for the ND travel industry. This year has demonstrated the public interest to utilize and enjoy our ND State Park systems. With exceptional increases in attendance in 2020, the ND State Parks & Recreation is demonstrating forward thinking with the amendments to NDC Section 55-08-05 with SB 2093.

By removing the current language that restricts concessionaire applications, and by inserting the direct management of the director of ND Parks & Recreation, a broader, more flexible application can be reviewed and either approved or denied by the director.

This would be a positive step that would increase event participation and retail sales benefitting not only the ND Parks & Recreation, but our residents in the state.

While I have submitted testimony as Chair of the ND Travel Alliance Partnership, I also support this bill as the Executive Director of the Dickinson Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Please support SB 2093.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terri Thiel", written over a blue circular stamp.

Terri Thiel
Executive Director

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