

Distinguished Representatives,

I'm writing to you today as a concerned citizen of North Dakota to advocate for the continued funding of the Northern Plains Writing Project grant. I am currently a graduate student in Minot State University's Master of Education Program, as well as a full-time 9-12th grade English Language Arts teacher at the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch in Minot.

I attended classes for the Northern Plains Writing Project in the summer of 2022 to increase my knowledge and improve my pedagogical practice when it came to teaching writing to my students, and I absolutely feel that my experience in the Northern Plains Writing Project was a worthwhile and valuable investment of my time and energy. I feel much more knowledgeable about the significance of writing and effective strategies on how to teach about it to my students. The funding provided to the Northern Plains Writing Project helped make it financially feasible for me to attend graduate school that summer. As a young educator just starting out in his career, the extra assistance incentivized me to continue my education, better myself as an educator, and be more thoughtful in my teaching strategies.

I hope future North Dakota teachers continue to get the same opportunity that I did with the Northern Plains Writing Project. I would strongly encourage the members of this committee to restore funding for the Northern Plains Writing Project in this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Logan Longtin
English Language Arts Teacher
Dakota Memorial School